



THE
ARABIAN NIGHTS
ENTERTAINMENTS.

VOL. XI.



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The



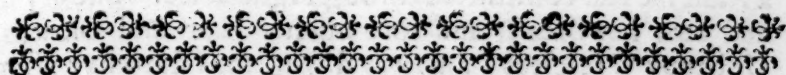
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*The Continuation of the Story of Cogia Hassan
Alhabbal.*

Commander of the Faithful, said *Hassan*, you have heard, how *Saadi* made me a present of two hundred pieces of Gold more, for me to make my Fortune with; I told you, that leaving off my Work I went home, took out ten pieces of Gold, and wrapp'd up the rest in a Linnen-Cloth, laid it at the Bottom of a great Pot full of Bran, unknown unto my Wife and Children; and I told them, I was going to buy Hemp.

While I was out, a Sand-Man, who sells scouring Sand, which Women use to clean the Baths with, pass'd thro' our Street and call'd, *Any Sand, ho?* My Wife, who wanted some, call'd him; but as she had no Money, she asked him, if he would make an Exchange of some Sand for some Bran. The Sand Man ask'd to see the Bran. My Wife shewed him the Pot, the Bargain was made and the Sand Man took the Pot and Bran along with him.

Not long after, I came Home, loaded with as much Hemp as I could carry, and followed by five Porters loaded also. After I had satisfied them for their Trouble, I sat down to rest my self, and looking about me, could not see the Pot of Bran.

It is impossible for me to express to your Majesty my Surprise, and the Effect it had on me. I ask'd of my Wife hastily, what was become of it? and she told me the Bargain she had made with the Sand Man, which she thought to be a very good one.

Ah, unfortunate Woman! cry'd I, you know not the Injury you have done me, your self, and our Children, by making that Bargain which hath ruined us quite. You thought only of selling the Bran, but with the Bran you have enriched the Sand Man with an hundred and ninety pieces of Gold, which *Saadi* with his Friend came and made me a second present of.

My

My Wife was like one stark mad, when she knew what a Fault she had committed through Ignorance. She cry'd, and beat her Breast, and tore off her Hair and Cloaths. Unhappy Wretch as I am, cry'd she, am I fit to live after so horrid a Mistake? Where shall I find this Sand Man? I never saw him in our Street before, and know him not. O Husband, added she, you was very much in the wrong to be so reserved in a Matter of such Importance! This had never happened, if you had communicated this Secret to me. In short, I shall never make an End of my Story, if I tell your Majesty, what her Grief made her say; for Women are often elegant in their Afflictions.

Wife, said I, moderate your Grief; by your Weeping and Howling you'll alarm all the Neighbourhood, and there's no Occasion they should be informed of our Misfortunes, they'll only laugh at us instead of pitying us; therefore we had best bear our Loss patiently, and submit our selves to the Will of God, and bless him for the ten pieces of Gold we have left, which will be of great Service to us in our Trade.

My Wife at first did not relish all these my Arguments; but as Time softens the greatest Misfortunes, and makes them more supportable, she at last grew easy, and had almost forgot them. 'Tis true, said I to her, we live but poorly; but what signifies Riches? Don't we breath the same Air, enjoy the same Light and Warmth of the Sun? therefore what Benefits have they, more than we, that we should envy their Happiness? they die as well as we. In short, while we live in the fear of God, as we all should do, the Advantage they have over us is so very inconsiderable, that we ought not to regard it.

I will not tire your Majesty any longer with my moral Reflections. My Wife and I comforted ourselves in this manner, and I follow'd my Trade with as much Alacrity as before these two mortifying Losses. The only Thing that troubled me sometimes, was, how I should look *Sand* in the Face, when he should come and ask me, how much I had advanced my Fortune, with what he had so generously given me; though it was no Fault of mine this time, no more than the other, but an accidental Misfortune.

The

The two Friends stay'd away longer this Time, than the former, tho' *Saad* had often spoke to *Saadi*, who alwaye put it off; for, *said he*; the longer we stay away, the richer *Hassan* will be, and I shall have the greater Satisfaction.

Saad, who had not the same Opinion of the Effect of his Friend's Generosity, made answer. You fancy then, that your Presents will turn to a better Account now than before; I would advise you not to flatter your self too much, for fear it should prove otherwise. Why, *reply'd Saadi*, Kites don't fly away with Turbans every Day, and *Hassan* will be more cautious this Time.

I don't doubt of it, *reply'd Saad*; but, *added he*, there are other Accidents that neither you nor I can think of; therefore I say, moderate your Joy, and don't depend too much on *Hassan's* good Success: For to tell you what I think, and what I always thought, (whether you like it or not,) I have a secret Foresight, that you will be balked in your Expectations.

In short, one Day when *Saad* and *Saadi* were together and were disputing hard upon this Subject, they resolv'd to take a Walk, and inform themselves which of them was in the right. I saw them at a Distance, was terribly concern'd, and was just going to leave my Work, and to run and hide my self. I seem'd very earnest at my Work, made as if I had not seen, and never lifted up my Eyes till they were just by me; and had saluted me, and then I could not help it. After we had talk'd upon indifferent Matters, I told them my last Misfortune, with all the Circumstances, and that I was as poor as ever.

After that, I added, you may say that I ought to have hid my Money in another Place than in a Pot of Bran, which was carried out of my House that same Day: But that Pot had stood there many Years, and had never been removed, when ever my Wife parted with the Bran: Besides, could I guess that a Sand-Man should come by that very Day, and my Wife, having no Money, should make such an Exchange: Indeed you may alledge, that I ought to have told my Wife of it; but I will never believe, that such prudent Persons, as I am perswaded you are, would have given me that Advice; and if I had put my Money any where else, what Certainty could I have, that it would have been more safe.

I see, Sir, said I, addressing my self to Saadi, that it has pleased God, whose Ways are secret, and impenetrable, that I should not be enrich'd by your Liberality, but that I must be poor: However the Obligation is the same, as if it had the desired Effect.

After these Words I was silent, and Saadi reply'd, Though I would persuade my self, Hassan, that all you tell us is true, and not owing to your Debauchery or ill Oeconomy, yet I must not be extravagant, and for the Sake of an Experiment to ruin my self. I don't regret in the least, the four hundred Pieces of Gold I gave you to raise you in the World; I did it for God's Sake, without expecting any Recompence, but the Pleasure of doing good; If any Thing makes me repent, it is, that I did not address my self to another, who might have made a better Use of my Charity: Then turning about to his Friend, Saad, continued he, you may know by what I have said, that I do not give up my Cause; you may now make your Experiment, and let me see, that there are Ways, besides giving money, to make a poor Man's Fortune; let Hassan be the Man, I dare say whatever you give him, he will not be the richer. Saad had a Piece of Lead in his Hand, which he shew'd Saadi; you saw me, said he, take up this Piece of Lead, which I found on the Ground; I'll give it Hassan, and you shall see what it is worth.

Saadi burst out a laughing at Saad. What is that Bit of Lead worth, said he, a Farthing? What can Hassan do with that? Saad presented it to me and said, take it Hassan, let Saadi laugh, you will tell us some good News of it one Time or other. I thought Saad was in jest, and had a Mind to divert himself, but however put the Lead in my Pocket, and thanked him. The two Friends pursued their Walk, and I fell to Work again.

At Night, when I pulled off my Cloths to go to Bed, Piece of Lead which I had never thought of, from the Time he gave it me, tumbled out of my Pocket: I took it up and laid it on the first Place that was nearest me. That same Night it happened, that a Fisherman, a Neighbour, mending his Nets, found a Piece of Lead wanting, and it being too late to buy any, since the Shops were shut up, and he must either fish that Night, or his Family go with-
out

out Bread the next Day; he called to his Wife, and bid her enquire among the Neighbours for a Bit. She went from Door to Door, on both Sides of the Street, but could not get any, and came back again to her Husband to tell him so. The Fisherman seem'd very much concern'd, and scratching his Head asked her, if she had been at *Hassan Alhabbal's*? No indeed, said the Wife, that was too far off, and I should but have lost my Labour; for they never have any Thing when one wants it. No Matter for that, said the Fisherman, you must go there, for tho' you have missed a hundred Things before, you may chance to get what we want now.

The Fisherman's Wife, after grumbling and growling all the Way, came and knock'd at my Door, and waked me out of a sound Sleep. I ask'd her, what she wanted? *Hassan Alhabbal*, said she, as loud as she could bawl, my Husband wants a Bit of Lead to mend his Nets with, and if you have a Piece, desires you to give it him.

The Piece of Lead, which *Saud* had given me was so fresh in my Memory, that I could not well forget it. I told my Neighbour, that if she would stay a Moment, my Wife should give her what she wanted: Accordingly my Wife, who was wakened as well as my self, got up, and groping about where I directed her, found the Lead, opened the Door, and gave it to the Fisherman's Wife, who was so overjoy'd, that she promised my Wife, that for the Kindness she did her and her Husband, we should have the first Cast of the Nets.

The Fisherman was so much rejoiced to see the Lead, which he so little expected, that he very much approved his Wife's Promise, and mending his Nets, went a fishing two Hours before Day, according to Custom. At the first Throw he caught but one Fish about a Yard long, and proportionable in Thickness; and afterwards had a great many successful Casts, but of all the Fish he took, the first was the biggest.

When the Fisherman had done fishing, he went home, where his first Care was to think of me. I was extremely surprized, when at my Work, to see him come to me with a large Fish in his Hand. Neighbour, said he, my Wife promised you last Night, whatever Fish I should catch

catch at my first Throw, and it pleased God to send me no more than this one, which for the Pleasure you did us, I desire you to accept ; for all my other Casts were very successful, and this is but a trifling Present.

Neighbour, said I, the Bit of Lead, which I gave you, was worth so little, that it ought not to be valued at so high a Rate ; Neighbours should assist each other with what they want, I should have expected the same Kindness from you, had I been in such a Need ; therefore I would refuse your Present, if I was not perswaded you gave it me freely, and that I should anger you, and since you will have it so, I return you my hearty Thanks.

After those Compliments, I took the Fish and carried it home to my Wife. Here, said I, take this Fish, which the Fisherman, our Neighbour has made me a present of, for the little bit of Lead he sent to us for last Night ; I believe it is all we can expect from the Present *Saad* made me Yesterday ; and then I up and told her what passed between the two Friends.

My Wife was very much startled to see so large a Fish. What would you have me do with it, said she ? our Grid-iron is only to broil small Fish, and we have not a Pot big enough to boil it. That's your Business, answered I, dress it as you will, I shall like it either Way ; and then I went to my Work again.

In cutting the Fish my Wife found a large Diamond, which when she washed it, she took for a Piece of Glass. Indeed she had heard talk of Diamonds, but had never seen one ; she gave it to the Children, for a Play-thing, who handed it about from one to another, to admire the Brightness and Beauty of it.

At Night when the Lamp was light, and the Children were still playing with the Diamond, they perceived that it gave a Light, when my wife, who was getting them their Supper, stood between them and the Lamp, upon which they snatched it from one another to look at it ; and the Youngest fell a crying, that the Eldest would not let them have it long enough : But as Children always squabble and fall out, my Wife and I took no Notice of them, and all was quiet ; for the great ones, who supped with us, had given the Diamond in the mean Time to the youngest.

Alter

After Supper, when the Children came together again, they began to make the same Noise, and I called to the eldest to know what was the Matter, who told me, it was a Piece of Glass, which gave a Light when his Back was to the Lamp, upon which I bid him bring it to me, and made the Experiment myself, and it appeared so extraordinary to me, that I ask'd my Wife, what it was, who told me it was a Piece of Glass, which she found in gutting the Fifth.

I thought no more than she, but that it was a bit of Glass, but was resolved to make a farther Experiment of it, and therefore bid my Wife put the Lamp in the Chimney, and still found, that it gave so great a Light, that we might see to go to Bed without the Lamp; so I put it out, and placed the bit of Glass upon the Chimney to light us. Look, said I, this is another Advantage, that my Friend Saad's Piece of Lead procures us; it will save us the expence of Oil.

When the Children saw the Lamp was put out, and the bit of Glass supply'd it's Place, they hollowed out so loud, and made so great a Noise, that it was enough to alarm the Neighbourhood; and before my Wife and I could quiet them, we were forc'd to augment it. After they were in Bed, my Wife and I, who lay just by them, went to Bed too, and next Morning, without thinking any more of the Glass, I went to my Work as usual; for it ought not to seem strange, that so ordinary a Person as I was, who had never seen any Diamonds, should not know them or their Value.

But before I proceed, I must tell your Majesty, that there was but a very slight Partition Wall between my next Neighbour's House and Mine, who was a very rich Jew, and a Jeweller; and the Chamber that he and his Wife lay in joined to ours; and as they were both in Bed, the Noise my Children made, awakened them.

The next Morning the Jeweller's Wife came to mine to complain of being disturb'd out of their first Sleep. Good Neighbour Rachel, which was the Jew's Name, said my Wife, I am very sorry for what happen'd, and hope you will excuse it; you are sensible it was the Children, and they, you know, will laugh and cry for any Thing;
Come

Come in, and I will shew you what was the Occasion of all the Noise.

The *Jew* went in with her, and my Wife taking the Diamond off the Chimney-Piece, gave it into her Hands. See here, said she, it was this Piece of Glass, that caused all the Noise; and while the *Jew*, who understood all Sorts of Jewels, was examining this Diamond with Admiration, my Wife had told her what had happen'd, and how she had found it in the Fish's Belly.

Indeed, *Rischaah*, which was my Wife's Name, said the Jeweller's Wife, giving her the Diamond again, I believe it is a Piece of Glass; but as it is more beautiful than common Glass; and I have just such another Piece at Home, I will buy it, if you will sell it.

The Children, who heard them talking of selling their Play-thing, presently interrupted their Conversation, crying and begging of their Mother, not to part with it, who to quiet them, promised she would not.

The *Jew* being thus prevented in her Bargain by my Children, went away, but first whispered with my Wife, who followed her to the Door, that if she had a mind to sell it, not to shew it to any Body before she told her.

As soon as the *Jew* parted from my Wife, she ran to the *Jew* her Husband, who went out early in the Morning to his Shop in that Part of the Town where the Jewellers all resorted to, and told him the Discovery she had made, and then gave him an Account as nigh as she could, of the Size and Weight of it, and of its Beauty, Water and Lustre.

The *Jew* sent his Wife immediately to treat, and to offer her a trifle at first, as she should think fit, and then to raise her Price by Degrees, but be sure to bring it, cost what it would. Accordingly the Wife came again to mine, and bid her twenty Pieces of Gold for that Piece of Glass.

My Wife finding the Sum so considerable, would not make any Bargain, but told her, she could not part with it, till she had spoke with me. In the mean Time I came from my Work to Dinner, and as they were talking at the Door, my Wife stopp'd me, and ask'd me, if I would sell the Piece of Glass she had found in the Fish's Belly, for twenty Pieces of Gold, which her Neighbour offered her?

her? I returned no answer, but reflected immediately on the Assurance with which *Saad*, in giving me the Piece of Lead, told me it would make my Fortune. The *Jew* Woman fancied, that the low Price she had offered, was the Reason I made no Reply, said, I will give you fifty, Neighbour, if that will do.

As soon as I found, that she rose presently from twenty to fifty, I told her, that I expected a great deal more. Well Neighbour, said she, I'll give you an hundred, and that is too much: I know not but my Husband may be angry with me. At this new Augmentation, I told her, I would have an hundred thousand Pieces of Gold; that I knew very well, that the Diamond was worth a great deal more; but to oblige her and her Husband, as they were Neighbours, I would limit my self to that Price; and if they refused to give it, other Jewellers should have it who would give a great deal more.

The *Jew* confirmed me in this my Resolution, by being so eager to conclude the Bargain, and by coming up at several Biddings to fifty thousand Pieces, which I refused. I can offer you no more, said she, without my Husband's Consent, who'll be at home at Night; and I would beg the Favour of you to let him see it; which I promised.

At Night when the *Jew* came home, his Wife told him what she had done, that I refused fifty thousand Pieces of Gold, and that I had promised to stay till Night. He observed the Time I left off Work, and came to me. Neighbour *Hassan*, said he, I desire you would shew me the Diamond your Wife shewed to mine. I bid him go in a Doors with me, and he should. As it was pretty dark, and my Lamp was not light, he knew presently by the Light the Diamond cast, and by the Lustre it had, that his Wife had given him a just Account. He looked at, and admired it a long Time. Well, Neighbour, said he, my Wife tells me, she has offered you fifty thousand Pieces of Gold, come, I'll give you twenty thousand more.

Neighbour, said I, your Wife can tell you, that I value my Diamond at an hundred thousand Pieces, and will take nothing less. He barter'd a long Time with me, in Hopes that I would make some Abatement, but finding at last, that I was positive, and for fear I should shew it to other Jewellers, he came up to my Price, but told me, that
he

he had not so much then at home, but would pay it me all by that Time to Morrow, and that very instant fetched two Bags of a thousand Pieces each as an Earnest; and the next Day, tho' I don't know how he rais'd the Money, whether he borrowed the Money, or let some other Jewellers in Partners with him, he brought me the Sum we agreed for, at the Time appointed; and I gave him the Diamond.

Having thus sold my Diamond, and being infinitely rich beyond my Hopes, I thanked God for his Bounty and Liberality; and would have gone and thrown my self at *Saad's* Feet, if I had known where he liv'd; as also at *Saadi's* to whom I was first obliged, tho' his good Intention had not the same Success.

Afterwards I thought of the Use I should make of so considerable a Sum. My Wife, with the Vanity natural to her Sex, propos'd immediately to buy rich Cloaths for her and her Children; and to purchase a House and furnish it handsomely. I told her we ought not to begin with such Expences; for, said I, the Money is made to be spent, yet we must proceed to lay a good Foundation, that we may not exhaust our Stock, and began so to do the next Morning.

I spent all that Day, and the next, in going to People of my own Trade, who work'd hard every Day for their Bread, and giving them Money before-hand, engag'd them to work for me in different Sorts of Rope-making, according to their Ability, with a Promise never to make them wait for their Money, but to pay them as soon as their Work was done.

By this Means I engross'd almost all the Business of *Bagdad*, and every Body was pleas'd with my Exactness and punctual Payment.

Now as so great a Number of Workmen must produce a great deal of Work, I went and hired Ware-houses in several Parts of the Town, to hold my Goods, and appointed over each a Clerk, to sell both by Wholesale and Retail; and by this Oeconomy received a considerable Profit. Afterwards, to unite so many Warehouses into one Place, I bought a large House, which stood upon a great deal of Ground, pulled it down and built that, which your Majesty saw Yesterday, which, though it makes so great an Ap-
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pearance, consists, for the most Part, of Warehouses for my Business, with only what Apartments are just necessary for me and my Family.

Sometime after I had left my old poor Habitation, and removed to this new one, *Saad* and *Saadi*, who had scarce thought of me from the last Time they had been with me, as they were one Day walking together, and passing by our Street, resolved to call upon me: But how great was their Surprise, when they did not see me at Work, as they used to find me. They ask'd, what was become of me, and if I was alive or dead: But then their Amazement was redoubled, when they were told, that I was become a great Merchant, and was no longer call'd plain *Hassan*, but *Cogia Hassan Alhabbal*, which was to say, *Merchant Hassan Ropemaker*, and that I had built in a Street, which they named, a House like a Palace.

The two Friends went directly to the Street, and in the Way, as *Saadi* could not imagine, that the bit of Lead which *Saad* had given me, could be the raising of my Fortune, he said to him, I am overjoy'd to have made *Hassan Alhabbal's* Fortune: But I cannot forgive the two Lies he told me, to get four Hundred Pieces instead of two; for I, nor no Body else can attribute it to the Piece of Lead that you gave him.

That's your Thought, reply'd *Saad*, but not mine; and I don't see why you should do *Cogia Hassan* so much Injustice, as to take him for a Lyar. You'll give me leave to believe, that he told us the Truth, and disguised nothing from us, and that the Piece of Lead which I gave him, is the Cause of his Prosperity, and you'll find he will presently tell us so.

In this Discourse, the two Friends came into the Street where I live, and ask'd whereabouts my House stood; and being shew'd it, and considering the Front, they had much ado to believe it.

As soon as they knocked at the Door, my Porter open'd it, and *Saadi* fearing to be rude in taking the House of some Noble Lord for that he was enquiring after, said to the Porter, I am afraid we are wrong, tho' they tell us this is *Cogia Hassan Alhabbal's*. You are very right, Sir, said the Porter opening the Door wider, 'tis the same; and any of the Slaves will tell him you attend.

I no sooner set my Eyes upon the two Friends, but I knew them. I rose from my Seat and ran to them, and would have kissed the Hem of their Garments, but they would not let me, but embraced me. I invited them to sit down on a Sofa, which was placed full against my Gardens, and sat over against them, assuring them, at the same Time, that I had not forgot, that I was *Hassan Alhabbal*, nor the Obligations I had to them.

Then *Saadi* addressing himself to me, said, *Cogia Hassan*, I cannot express my Joy, to see you in the Condition I wish'd you, when I made you the Presents, without reproaching you, of twice two hundred Pieces of Gold: And I am perswaded, that those four hundred Pieces have made this wonderful Change in your Fortune, which I see with Pleasure: Only there's one Thing vexes me, which is, I cannot comprehend the Reason, why you should disguise the Truth from me, alledging twice those Misfortunes, which seem incredible.

Saad heard this Discourse of *Saadi's*, with Impatience, and, I may say, Anger, which he shewed by casting down his Eyes and shaking his Head, but however did not interrupt him. When he had done, he said to him, Forgive me, *Saadi*, if I prevent *Cogia Hassan*, before he answers you, to tell you, that I admire at your Prejudice against his Sincerity, and that you still persist in not believing the Assurances he had given you already. I have told you before, and repeat it to you once more, that I believe those two Accidents which beset him, upon his bare Relation; and whatever you may say, I am perswaded they are true; but let him speak himself, and tell which of us does him Justice.

After this Discourse of the two Friends, I said, addressing my self to them both, Gentlemen, I should condemn my self to perpetual Silence, on the clearing up of what you ask of me, if I was not certain the Dispute you argue upon on my Account, cannot break that Tie of Friendship between you; therefore I will declare to you, the Truth, since you require it, and with the same Sincerity as before. Then I told them every single Accident, as your Majesty has heard, without forgetting the least Circumstance.

All my Proteſtations had no Effect on *Saadi*, to cure him of his Prejudice. *Cogia Haſſan*, reply'd *Saadi*, the Adventure of the Fiſh and Diamond found in his Belly, appears to me as incredible as the Kite's flying away with your Turban, and the Exchange of the Scouring Sand. Be it as it will, I am convinced, that you are no longer poor, but rich as I intended you ſhould be, by my Means, and I rejoyce ſincerely.

As it grew late, they got up to take their Leaves, when I ſtopping them, ſaid, Gentlemen, there's one Favour I beg of you, not to reſuſe me, to do me the Honour of, that is to ſtay and take a ſlight Supper with me, and a Bed to Night, and to Morrow I'll carry you to a Country Houſe I bought for the Sake of the Air, and we'll return the ſame Day on my Horſes.

If *Saad* has no Buſineſs that calls him elſewhere, ſaid *Saadi*, I conſent. *Saad* told him, that nothing ſhould prevent his enjoying his Company; and while they were talking about ſending a Slave to their Homes, that they might not ſit up for them, I went and ordered Supper.

While Supper was getting ready, I ſhew'd my Benefactors my Houſe, and all my Offices, which they found to be very large for my Fortune; I call them both Benefactors without Diſtinction, becauſe without *Saadi*, *Saad* would never have given me the Piece of Lead; and without *Saad*, *Saadi* would not have given me the four hundred Pieces of Gold, to which I attribute the Riſe of my good Fortune; then I brought them back again into the Hall, where they ask'd me ſeveral Queſtions about my Buſineſs, and I gave them ſuch Answers as ſatiſfied them.

During this Diſcourſe, my Servants came to tell me, that Supper was ſerved up; I led them into another Hall, where they admired the Conveniency of it, the Bouſſet, and the Meats I had provided; I regaled them alſo with a Concert of Vocal and Inſtrumental Muſick during the Repaſt, and afterwards with a Company of Dancers, and other Entertainments, endeavouring to ſhew them as much as poſſible my Gratitude.

The next Morning, as we had agreed to take a little freſh Air, we went to the River Side by Sun-riſe, and went on board a Pleaſure Boat that waited for us, and in leſs than

an Hour and a half's Time, with six Oars and the Stream, we arrived at my Country-House.

When we went ashore, the two Friends stopt to observe the Beauty of the Outside of my House, and to admire the advantageous Situation for the Prospects, which were neither too much limited nor extensive, but very agreeable. Then I carried them into all the Apartments, and shewed them all the Out-houses and Conveniencies, with which they were very well pleased.

Afterwards we walked into the Gardens, where what they were most taken with, was a Grove of Orange and Lemon Trees, loaded with Fruit, which were planted at equal Distance, and watered by a Canal, which was cut from a pleasant River just by. The close Shade, the fragrant Smell, which perfumed the Air, the soft Murmuring of the Water, the harmonious Notes of an infinite Number of Birds, and a great many other things which were agreeable, struck them in such a Manner, that they hardly stirred a Step, but they expressed how much they were obliged to me, for bringing them to so delightful and pleasant a Place, and sometimes to congratulate me upon my Happiness and great Acquisitions. Then I led them to the End of that Grove, which was very long and large, where I shew'd them a Wood of large grown Trees, which stood at the End of my Gardens, and afterwards a Summer-House, open to all Sides, shaded with an Host of Palm-Trees, but not so as to spoil the Prospect; there I invited them to walk in, and repose themselves on a rich cover'd Sofa.

There two of my Boys, whom I had sent into the Country with a Tutor for the Air, left us, to go into the Wood a Bird-nesting, and seeing one, which was built pretty high, they bid the Slave, who waited on them, climb the Tree for it; who, when he came to it, was very much surprized to find it built in a Turban; however he took it, and brought it down with him, and as he thought that I might like to see a thing that was so uncommon, he gave it the eldest Boy to bring to me.

I saw the Children at a Distance coming back to us, overjoy'd to have a Nest: Father, said the eldest Lad, we have found a Nest in a Turban. The two Friends and I were all very much surprized at the Novelty, but I much more, when I knew the Turban to be that which the Kite
flew

flew away with. After I had examined it well, and turned it about, I said to my two Guests, Gentlemen, have you Memories good enough to remember the Turban I had on the Day you did me the Honour first to speak to me? I don't think, said *Saad*, that either my Friend or I, gave any Attention to it, but if the Hundred and Ninety Pieces of Gold were in it, we cannot doubt of it.

Sir, reply'd I, there's no Dispute, but it is the same Turban, for besides that I know it very well, it feels very heavy, give your self but the Trouble to take it in your Hand; then after taking out the Birds, and giving them to the Children, I put it into his Hands, and he gave it to *Saadi*. Indeed, said *Saadi*, I believe it to be your Turban, but I shall be the better convinced, when I see the Money.

Now, Sir, added I, taking the Turban again, observe very well before I touch it, that no human Hand could have made such a Nest, and the Condition in which you see it, shews it not to be of a very fresh Date, and is a sufficient Proof that it has lain in the Tree ever since that Day the Kite took it from off my Head. I think it proper, that I shou'd make this Remark, since it concerns me so much, to remove your Suspicions of my being deceitful. *Saad* back'd me in what I urged, and said, *Saadi*, this regards you, and not me, for I am verily perswaded, that *Cogia Hassan* does not impose upon us.

While *Saad* was talking, I pull'd off the Linnen Cloth which was wrapt about the Cap, and took out the Bag, which *Saadi* knew to be the same he gave me. I emptied it my self before them, and said; there, Gentlemen, there's the Money, count it, and see if it be right; which *Saad* did, and found it to be One Hundred and Ninety Pieces of Gold. Then *Saadi*, who could not deny so manifest a Truth, addressing himself to me, said, I agree, *Cogia Hassan*, that this Money could not be assisting to your Enrichment, but the other Hundred and Ninety Pieces, which you would make me believe you hid in a Pot of Bran, might. Upon my Word, Sir, answered I, I have told you the Truth in Regard to both Sums, and you would not have me retract, to make my self a Lyar.

Cogia Hassan, said *Saad*, leave *Saadi* to his own Opinion; I consent with all my Heart, that he believes you are obliged to him for one part of your good Fortune, by the

Means of the last Sum he gave you, provided that he will agree, that I contributed to the other half, by the Bit of Lead, and will not pretend to dispute the Diamond found in that Fish's Belly. I agree to it, answered *Saadi*, but still you must give me Liberty to believe, that Money is not to be amassed without Money.

What, replied *Saad*, if Chance would throw a Diamond in my Way worth Fifty Thousand Pieces of Gold, and I should have that Sum given me for it, can it be said that I got that Sum by Money?

They disputed no farther then, but we got up, and went into the House just as Dinner was ready. After Dinner, I left my Guests together, to pass away the Heats of the Day more at their Liberty, while I went to give Orders to my House-Keeper and Gardener. Afterwards I went to them again, and we talk'd of indifferent Matters, till it grew a little cooler, when we return'd into the Garden for the fresh Air, and stayed till Sun set. Then we all mounted on Horseback, and got to *Bagdad* by Moon-light, two Hours after, followed by one of my Slaves.

It happen'd by I don't know what Negligence of my Servants, that we were then out of Oats, and the Store-Houses were all shut up; when one of my Slaves seeking about the Neighbourhood for some, met with a Pot of Bran in a Shop, bought the Bran, and brought the Pot along with him, promising to carry it back again the next Day. The Slave emptied the Bran into the Manger, and dividing it with his Hand among the Horses, felt a Linen Cloth tied up and very heavy; he brought the Cloth to me in the Condition he found it, and presented it to me, telling me, that it might perhaps be the Cloth he had often heard me speak of among my Friends.

I ran overjoy'd to my two Benefactors, Gentlemen, said I, it has pleased God that you should not part from me, before you should be fully convinced of the Truth of what I have assured you: There's the other hundred and ninety Pieces of Gold, continued I, addressing my self to *Saadi*, which you gave me; I know it very well by the Cloth, which I tied up with my own Hands; and then I told out the Money before them. I order'd the Pot presently to be brought to me, and knew it to be the same, and sent to my Wife, who did so too at the first Sight.

Saadi

Saadi readily submitted, and renounced his Incredulity, and said to *Saad*, I yield to you, and acknowledge, that Money is not always the Means of becoming rich.

When *Saadi* had done, I said to him, I dare not propose to return you the three hundred Pieces of Gold, which it hath pleased God, should be found to undeceive you, and am perswaded, that you did not give themme with an Intention that I should return them; and for my Part I ought to be very well content, and don't design to make use of them; but if you approve of it, to Morrow I will give them to the Poor, that God may bless us both.

The two Friends lay with me that Night too, and next Day after embracing me, went to their own Homes, very well pleased with the Reception I had given them; and to find I did not make an ill Use of the Riches Heaven had bless'd me with. I thanked them both, and looked upon the Leave they gave me to cultivate a Friendship with them, and to visit them, as a great Honour.

The Caliph *Haroun Alraschid* was so attentive to *Cogia Hassan's* Story, that he had not perceiv'd the End of it, but by his Silence. *Cogia Hassan*, said he, I have not heard any Thing a long Time, that has given me so much Pleasure, to see the wonderful Ways, by which God gave thee thy Riches, for which thou oughtest to continue to return him Thanks by the good Use thou makest of his Blessings. I am glad I can tell thee, that the same Diamond, which made thy Fortune, is now in my Treasury; and for my Part, I am glad to know how it came there: But because there may remain in *Saadi* some Doubts on the Singularity of this Diamond, which I look upon to be the most precious and valuable Thing I am Master of; I would have thee carry *Saad* and *Saadi* to my Treasurer, who shall shew it them, to remove *Saadi's* Unbelief, and to let them see that Money is not the only certain Means of making a poor Man rich in a short Time, without taking a great deal of Pains. Besides, I would have thee tell the Keeper of my Treasury this Story, that he may have it put into Writing, and that it may be kept with the Diamond.

After these Words the Califf signified to *Cogia Hassan*, *Sidi Nonman*, and *Baba Abdallah*, by bowing of his Head, that he was satisfied with them, who all took their Leaves by prostrating themselves at the Throne, and then retired.

The Sultaneſs *Scheherazade* would have begun another Story, but the Sultan of the *Indies* perceiving the Day appearing, put off the Hearing of it to the next Day, when *Dinarzade* waked her Siſter, who told the Sultan her Husband, the following Story.

The Story of Ali Baba, and the forty Thieves destroy'd by a slave.

MOST Mighty Sultan, ſaid *Scheherazade*, in a Town in *Persia*, on the Conſines of your Maſeſty's Dominions, there lived two Brothers called *Caffim* and *Ali Baba*, who, tho' they were left equally alike by their Father, whoſe Subſtance was but ſmall, yet were they not alike Favouriteſ of Fortune.

Caffim married a Wife, who ſoon after their Marriage was left Heir to a plentiful Eſtate, and rich Merchant, ſo that he became a rich and conſiderable Merchant and lived at his Eaſe.

Ali Baba on the other Hand, who married a Woman as poor as himſelf, lived very meanly, and was forc'd to maintain his Wife and Children by his daily Labour, by cutting of Wood in a Foreſt hard by the Town, and bringing it upon three Aſſes, which were his whole Subſtance, to Town to ſell.

One Day, when *Ali Baba* was in the Foreſt, and had juſt cut Wood enough to load his Aſſes, he ſaw at a Diſtance a great Cloud of Duſt, which ſeemed to approach towards him; he obſerved it very attentively, and diſtinguiſhed a large Body of Horſe, and tho' they did not talk much of Thieves in that Country, *Ali Baba* began to think that they might prove ſo, and without conſidering what might become of his Aſſes, he was reſolved to ſave one, and to that End climbed up a large thick and cloſe leaved Tree, from whence he could ſee all that paſſed without being ſeen; and this Tree ſtood at the Bottom of a Rock which was very high, and ſo ſteep and craggy that no Body could climb up it.

This Troop, who were all well mounted, and well armed, came to the Foot of this Rock, and there diſmounted. *Ali Baba* counted forty of them, and by their Mein and Equipment, never doubted, but that they were Thieves, and in his Opinion was not miſtaken, for they were a Troop of *Banditti*, who robbed thereabouts, and made

made that Place their Rendezvous; and what confirm'd him in this Opinion, was, every Man unbridled his Horse, and ty'd him to some Shrub or other, and hung a Bag of Corn they brought behind them, about his Neck; then each of them took his Portmantle, which seem'd to *Ali Baba* to be Gold and Silver by the Weight, and followed one who was most likely among them; and, whom he took to be their Captain, who with his Portmantle too in his Hand, came under the Tree in which *Ali Baba* was hid, and traversing among some Shrubs, pronounced these Words distinctly, *Sesamum* (which is a Sort of Corn) *openo*. As soon as the Captain of the Robbers had said these Words, a Door opened, and after he had made all his Troop go in, he followed them himself, and the Door shut again.

The Thieves stay'd some Time within the Rock, and *Ali Baba*, who feared, that some, one, or all of them together should come out and catch him, if he should endeavour to make his Escape, sat very patiently in the Tree; but was nevertheless tempted once or twice to get down and mount one of their Horses and lead another, and make all the haste he could to Town; but the uncertainty of the Event made him chuse the safest way.

At last the Door opened again, and the forty Robbers came out again; as the Captain went in last, he came out first, and stood to see them all pass by him, and then *Ali Baba* heard him bid the Door shut by pronouncing these Words, *Shut Sesame*. Every Man went and bridled his Horse, fastened his Portmantle, and mounted again; and when the Captain saw them all ready, he put himself at their Head, and returned the same way he came.

Ali Baba all this time never stirred out of the Tree; for, said he to himself, they may have forgot something, and come back again, and then shall I be taken, but follow'd them with his Eyes as far as he could see them; and after that, stay'd some time, before he came down, and remembering the Word the Captain of the Thieves made use of to open and shut, he had the Curiosity to try if his pronouncing of it would have the same Effect. Accordingly he went among the Shrubs, and perceiving the Door, he said, *Open Sesame*; the Door flew wide open.

Ali Baba, who expected a dark dismal Place, was very much surprized to see it light some, and spacious, cut out in the form of a Vault by Men, and received the Light from an opening at the Top of the Rock. He saw all sorts of Provisions, and rich Bales of Merchandizes of Silk Stuffs, Brocades, and fine Tapestries, piled upon one another, and above all, great Heaps of Gold and Silver, and great Bags laid upon one another. This Sight made him believe that this Cave, by the Riches it contained, had been possessed not Years but Ages, by Robbers, who succeeded one another.

Ali Baba did not stand long to consider what he should do, but went immediately into the Cave, and as soon as he was in, the Door shut again, which never disturbed him, because he knew the Secret to open it again. He never regarded the Silver, but made the best use of his Time in carrying out as much of that Gold which was in Bags, at several Times, as he thought his three Asses could carry. When he had done, he gathered up his Asses, which were dispersed about, and when he had loaded them, covered the Bags with green Boughs, and pronouncing the Words *Shut Sesame*, made the best of his way to Town.

When *Ali Baba* got Home he drove his Asses into a little Yard, and shut the Gates carefully, threw off the Wood that covered the Bags, carried them into his House, and ranged them in order before his Wife, who sat on a *Sofa*.

His Wife handled the Bags, and finding them full of Money, suspected, that her Husband had been robbing, in so much that when he had brought them all in, she could not help saying, *Ali Baba*, Have you been so unhappy as to— Be quiet Wife, interrupted *Ali Baba*, do not fright your self, I am no Robber, unless he can be one who steals from Thieves. You'll no longer entertain an ill Opinion of me, when I shall tell you my good Fortune. Then he emptied the Bags, which raised such a great Heap of Gold, as dazzled his Wife's Eyes; and when he had done, told her the whole Adventure from the Beginning to the End, and above all recommended it to her to keep it secret.

The Wife, recovered and cured of her Fears, rejoiced with her Husband for their good Luck, and would count all the Gold, Piece by Piece. Wife, reply'd *Ali Baba*, you don't

don't know what you undertake, when you pretend to count the Money, you'll never have done; I'll go and dig an Hole and bury it, there's no Time to be lost. You are in the right on't, Husband, reply'd the Wife, but let us know as nigh as possible how much we have; I'll go and borrow a small Measure in the Neighbourhood, and measure it while you dig the Hole. What signifies it, Wife? said *Ali Baba*, if you wou'd take my Advice, you had better let it alone, but be sure to keep the Secret, and do what you please.

Away the Wife ran to her Brother-in-Law, *Cassim*, who lived just by, but was not then at Home, and addressing her self to his Wife, desired her to lend her a Measure for a little while. Her Sister-in-Law asked her, whether she would have a great one, or a small one? and being told a small one, bid her stay a little, and she would fetch one.

As the Sister-in-Law knew very well *Ali Baba's* Poverty, she was curious to know what Sort of Grain his Wife wanted to measure, and bethought her self immediately of putting some Suet at the Bottom of the Measure, and brought it to her with an Excuse, that she was sorry, that she made her stay so long, but that she could not find it sooner.

Ali Baba's Wife went Home, set the Measure upon the Heap of Gold, and filled it and emptied it so often at a small Distance upon the Floor, and was very well satisfied, to find the Numbers of Measures run so high as they did, and went to tell her Husband, who had almost finished the Hole he was digging; and while *Ali Baba* was burying the Gold, his Wife, to shew Exactness and Respect to her Sister-in-Law, carried the Measure back again, but without taking Notice of a piece of Gold that stuck at the Bottom. Sister, said she, giving it to her again, you see, that I have not kept your Measure long; I am obliged to you for it, and return it with Thanks.

As soon as *Ali Baba's* Wife's Back was turn'd, *Cassim's* Wife looked at the Bottom of the Measure, and was in an inexpressible Surprize, to find a piece of Gold stuck to it. Envy immediately possessed her Breast. What, said she, has *Ali Baba* Gold so plentiful, as to measure it? where has that poor Wretch got all this Gold? *Cassim*, her Husband, was not at Home, as I said before, but at his Shop,
which

which he left always in the Evening; which Time she thought an Age, so great was her Impatience to tell him the News.

When *Cassim* came Home, his Wife said to him, *Cassim*, I warrant you, you think your self rich, but you are much mistaken; *Ali Baba* is infinitely much richer than you; he does not count his Money, but measures it. *Cassim* bid her explain the Riddle, which she did, by telling him the Stratagem she had made use of, to make the Discovery, and shew'd him the piece of Money, which was so old a Coin, that they could not tell in what Prince's Reign it was coined.

Cassim, instead of being pleased at his Brother's Prosperity, conceiv'd a mortal Jealousy, and could not sleep all that Night for it, but went to him in the Morning before Sun-Rise. Now *Cassim*, after he married the rich Widow, never treated *Ali Baba* as a Brother, but forgot that Name. *Ali Baba*, said he, accosting him, you are very reserved in your Affairs; you pretend to be miserably poor, and yet you measure Gold. How, Brother! reply'd *Ali Baba*; I don't know what you mean; explain your self. Don't pretend Ignorance, reply'd *Cassim*, shewing him the piece of Gold his Wife had given him. How many of these pieces, added he, have you? my Wife found this at the Bottom of the Measure, yours borrowed Yesterday.

By this Discourse, *Ali Baba* perceiv'd, that *Cassim* and his Wife, through his own Wife's Folly, knew what they had so much Reason to keep secret: But what was done could not be recall'd; therefore without shewing the least Surprize or Trouble, he confess'd all, and told him by what Chance he had discovered this Retreat of the Thieves, and in what Place it was, and offer'd him part of his Treasure to keep the Secret. That's not sufficient, reply'd *Cassim*, haughtily, I'll know exactly where this Treasure is, and the Signs and Tokens, that I may go to it my self, when I have a mind; otherwise I will go and inform against you, and then you will lose all you have got, and I shall have Half what you have for my Information.

Ali Baba, more out of his natural good Temper, than frightened by the insulting Menaces of a barbarous Brother, told

told him all he desired, and even the very Words he was to make use of to go into the Cave, and out again.

Cassim, who wanted no more of *Ali Baba*, left him soon after, resolving to be before-hand with him, and to get all the Treasure to himself. He rose early the next Morning, and a long time before the Sun, and set out with ten Mules loaded with great Chests, which he designed to fill purposing to carry many more the next Time, according to the Riches he found, and followed the Road, which *Ali Baba* had told him: He was not long before he came to the Rock, and found out the Place by the Tree, and other Marks, his Brother had given him. When he came to the Door, he pronounced these Words, *Open Sesame*, and it opened, and when he was in, shut again. In examining the Cave, he was in a great Admiration to find much more Riches than he comprehended by *Ali Baba's* Relation. He was so Covetous, and desirous of Riches, that he could have spent the whole Day in feasting his Eyes with so much Treasure, if the Thoughts of carrying some away with him, and loading his Mules had not hindered him. He laid as many Bags of Gold as he could carry, at the Door, and coming at last to open the Door, his Thoughts were so full of the great Riches he should possess, that he could not think of the necessary Word, but instead of *Sesame*, said, *Open Barley*, and was very much amazed to find, that the Door did not open, but remained fast shut: Afterwards he named several sorts of Grain, but all to no Purpose.

Cassim never expected such an Accident, and was so frightened at the Danger he was in, that the more he endeavoured to remember the Word *Sesame*, the more his Memory was confounded, and he had as much forgot it, as if he had never heard it in his Life before, but walked and fretted about the Cave, without having the least Regard to all the Riches that was about him; and in this miserable Condition, we will leave him bewailing of his Fate, and undetering of Pity.

About Midnight the Thieves returned to their Cave, and at some Distance from it, found *Cassim's* Mules straggling about the Rock, with great Chests and Hampers on their Backs. This Novelty made them very uneasy, and made them gallop in full Speed to the Cave. The Thieves
never

never gave themselves the Trouble to pursue the Mules which they drove away, but were more concerned to know who they belonged to. And while some of them search'd about the Rock, the Captain, and others, went directly to the Door with their naked Sabres in their Hands, and pronouncing the Word it opened.

Cassim, who heard the Noise of the Horses Feet trampling about the Cave, never doubted of the coming of the Thieves, and his approaching Death; but was resolv'd to make one Effort to escape from them. To this End he stood ready at the Door, and no sooner heard the Word *Se-fame*, which he had forgot, and saw the Door open, but he jumped briskly out, and threw the Captain down, but could not escape the other Thieves, who with their Sabres, soon deprived him of Life.

The Thieves first care after this, was to go into the Cave, they found all the Bags which *Cassim* had brought to the Door, to be the more ready to load his Mules with, and carried them all back again, without perceiving what *Ali Baba* had taken away before; then holding a Council, and deliberating upon this Matter, they guess'd that *Cassim*, when he was in could not get out again; but then could not imagine how he got in. First they thought that he might have got down by the Top of the Cave; but the opening by which it received Light, was so high, and the Rock so inaccessible without, that they believed it impracticable; and in short, they none of them could imagine, which way he entered, for they were all perswaded, no Body knew their Secret: But however it happened, it was a Matter of the greatest Importance to them, to secure their Riches; therefore they agreed to cut *Cassim's* Body into four Quarters, and to hang two on one Side, and two on the other, within the Door of the Cave, to terrify any Person, that should attempt the same Thing. They had no sooner taken this Resolution, but they executed it. And when they had nothing more to detain them, they mounted their Horses, and went to beat the Roads again, and to attack the Caravans they should meet.

In the mean Time *Cassim's* Wife was very uneasy; when Night came, and her Husband was not returned, she ran to *Ali Baba* in a terrible Fright, and said; I believe, Brother-in-Law, that you know that *Cassim* is gone to the
Forest,

Forest, and upon what Account; its now Night, and he is not returned; I am afraid some Misfortune has come to him. *Ali Baba*, who never disputed, but that his Brother, after what he had said to him, would go to the Forest, would not go himself that Day, for fear of giving him any Umbrage; therefore told her without any Reflection upon her Husband's unhandſome Behaviour, that she need not fright her self, for that certainly *Cassim* did not think it proper to come into the Town, till the Night should be pretty far advanced.

Cassim's Wife considering how much it concern'd her Husband, to keep this thing secret, was the more easily perswaded to believe him; and went home again, and waited patiently till Midnight. Then her Fear redoubled with much more sensible Grief, because she durst not shew it, but was forc'd to keep it secret from the Neighbourhood. Then if her Fault had been repairable, she repented of her foolish Curiosity, and cursed her Desire of penetrating into the Affairs of her Brother and Sister. She spent all that Night in Tears, and as soon as it was Day, went to them, telling them, by her Tears, the Cause of her Coming.

Ali Baba never waited for his Sister-in-Law, to desire him to go to see what was become of *Cassim*, but went immediately with his three Asses, begging of her first to moderate her Affliction. When he came near the Rock, and having seen neither his Brother nor his Mules in his Way, he was very much surprized to see some Blood spilt by the Door, which he took for an ill Omen: But when he had pronounced the Word, and the Door opened, he was much more startled at the dismal Sight of his Brother's Quarters. He was not long in thinking how he should pay the last Dues to his Brother, and without remembering the little Brotherly Friendship he had for him, went into the Cave to find something to wrap them in, and loaded one of his Asses with them, and covered them over with green Wood; the other two Asses he loaded with Bags of Gold, covering them with Boughs also; and then bidding the Door shut, came away; but was so cautious as to stop some Time at the End of the Forest, that he might not go into the Town before Night. When he came Home, he drove the two
Asses

Asses loaded with Gold, into his little Yard, and left the Care of unloading them to his Wife, while he led the other to his Sister-in-Law's.

Ali Baba knock'd at the Door, which was open'd by *Morgiana*, a cunning artful Slave, so fruitful in her Inventions, that she would succeed in the most difficult Undertakings; and *Ali Baba* knew her to be such. When he came into the Court he unloaded his Ass, and taking *Morgiana* aside, said to her, the first Thing I ask of thee, is an inviolable Secrecy, which you will find is necessary both for thy Mistress's Sake and mine. Thy Master's Body is contained in both those two Bundles, and our Business is to bury him as if he dyed a natural Death; go, tell your Mistress I want to speak with her, and mind what I say to you.

Morgiana went to her Mistress, and *Ali Baba* followed her. Well, Brother, said she with great Impatience, what News do you bring me of my Husband? I perceive no Comfort in your Countenance. Sister, answered *Ali Baba*, I cannot tell you any Thing, before you hear my Story from the Beginning to the End, without speaking a Word; for it is of as great Importance to you, to keep what has happened secret, as to me. Alas! said she, this Preamble lets me know, that my Husband is dead; but at the same time I know the Necessity of the Secrecy you require of me, and I must constrain my self; say on, I will hear you.

Then *Ali Baba* told his Sister the Success of his Journey, till he came to the finding of *Cassim's* Body. Now, said he, Sister, I have something to tell you, which will afflict you much the more, because it is what you so little expect: But it cannot now be remedied; and if any Thing can comfort you, I offer to put that little which God has sent me to what you have, and marry you, assuring you, that my Wife will not be jealous; and that we shall live happily together. If this Proposal is agreeable to you, we must think of acting so, as that my Brother should appear to die a natural Death; and I think fit to leave the Management of it to the Care of *Morgiana*, and will contribute my self all that lies in my Power.

What

What could *Cassim's* Widow do better than accept of this Proposal? for tho' her first Husband had left behind him a plentiful Substance, this second was much richer, and by the discovery of this Treasure, might be much more. Instead of rejecting the Offer, she looked upon it as a reasonable Motive to comfort her, and drying up her Tears, and suppressing her Sighings and Sobblings, shewed *Ali Baba*, she approved of his Proposition in this Matter. *Ali Baba* left the Widow, and also recommending to *Morgiana* to acquit her self of what she had undertaken, and returned Home with his Ass.

Morgiana went out at the same time to an Apothecary's, and asked him for a Sort of Lozenges, which he prepared, and were very efficacious in the most dangerous Distempers. The Apothecary asked her who was sick, her Master? And she reply'd with a Sigh, her good Master *Cassim* himself; that they knew not what his Distemper was; but that he could neither eat nor speak. After these Words, *Morgiana* carried the Lozenges Home with her, and the next Morning went to the same Apothecary's again, and with Tears in her Eyes, asked for an Essence, with which they used to rub sick People, when at the last Extremity. Alas! said she, taking it from the Apothecary, I am afraid that this Remedy will have no better Effect than the Lozenges; and that I shall lose my good Master.

On the other Hand, as *Ali Baba* and his Wife were often seen to go between *Cassim's* and their own House all that Day, and to seem melancholy; no Body was much surprized in the Evening, to hear the lamentable Shrieks and Crys of *Cassim's* Wife and *Morgiana*, who told it every where, that her Master was dead.

The next Morning, soon after Day appeared, *Morgiana*, who knew a certain old Cocker, that opened his Stall early, before other People, went to him, and bidding him good Morrow, put a piece of Gold into his Hand. Well, said *Baba Mustapha*, which was his Name, and who was a merry old Fellow, looking on the Gold, this is good Hand-sel; what must I do for it?

Baba Mustapha, said *Morgiana*, you must take along with you your sawing Tack'e, and go with me; but I must
tell

tell you, we must blindfold you, when you come to such a Place.

Baba Mustapha seemed to boggle a little at these Words. Oh! oh! reply'd he, you would have me to do something against my Conscience and Honour. God forbid, said *Morgiana*, putting another piece of Gold into his Hand, that I should ask any thing that is contrary to your Honour; only come along with me, and fear nothing.

Baba Mustapha went with *Morgiana*, who after she had bound his Eyes, at the Place she told him of, with an Handkerchief, carried him home with her, and never unloosed his Eyes till he came into the Room where her Master lay. *Baba Mustapha*, said she, you must make haste and sew these Quarters together; and when we have done, I'll give you another Piece of Gold.

After *Baba Mustapha* had done as she bid him, she blindfolded him again, gave him the Gold she promised, recommending Secrecy to him, carried him back to the Place where she first bound his Eyes; pulled off the Band, and watched him that he returned to his Stall, for fear he should have the Curiosity to dog her; and then went Home.

By that Time *Morgiana* had done all this, and warmed some water to wash the Body, *Ali Baba* came with Perfumes and Incense to embalm it, with the usual Ceremonies. Not long after the Joiner, according to *Ali Baba's* Orders, brought the Coffin, which *Morgiana*, that he might perceive nothing, received at the Door, and helped *Ali Baba* to put the Body into it; and as soon as he had nailed it up, went to the *Mosque*, to tell the *Immam*, that they were ready, telling the People of the *Mosque*, whose Business it was to watch the Dead, and who offered to perform their Duty, that it was done already.

Morgiana had scarce got home before the *Immam*, and the other Ministers of the *Mosque*. Four Neighbours carried the Corpse on their Shoulders, and followed the *Immam*, who recited some Prayers to the burying Ground, *Morgiana*, as a Slave of the Deceased, follow'd the Corpse, beating her Breast, and tearing her Hair; and *Ali Baba*, came after with some Neighbours, who walked two and two, and often relieved one another in carrying the Corpse.

Cassim's Wife, she stay'd at Home to mourn, and receive Visits from her Neighbours Wives, and Acquaintance,

tance, who according to the Custom, during the Time of the Ceremony of the Burial, came to bewail with the Widow for her Loss.

In this Manner *Cassim's* horrid Murder was concealed, and managed so well by *Ali Baba*, his Wife, *Cassim's* Widow, and *Morgiana*, that no Body had the least Knowledge or Suspicion of it.

Three or four Days afterwards *Ali Baba* removed his Goods to his Brother's Widow's House; but the Money he had taken from the Thieves, he conveyed thither by Night; and soon after the Marriage with his Sister-in-Law, (which is common in our Religion,) was blown about.

As for *Cassim's* Shop, *Ali Baba* gave it to his eldest Son, who had been some Time out of his Apprenticeship to a great Merchant, promising him withal, that if he managed the Stock well, he would give him a Fortune to marry very advantageously.

Now let us leave *Ali Baba* to enjoy the Beginning of his good Fortune, and return to the forty Thieves.

They came again, at the appointed Time, to visit their Retreat, and were in a great Surprise, to find *Cassim's* Body taken away, and some of their Gold; we are certainly discovered, said the Captain, and shall be undone, if we don't take Care, and apply some Remedy; otherwise, we shall insensibly lose all the Riches, which our Ancestors have been so many Years amassing together with so much Pains and Danger. What I think of this Loss, which we have sustained, is, that the Thief which we surprized, had the Secret of opening the Door, and we came luckily as he was coming out: But his Body being removed, and the Money which we miss, plainly shews, that he has an Accomplice; and it is likely, that there were but two, who had got this Secret, and one we have catch'd; therefore we must look narrowly, after the other. What say you to it, my Lads?

All the Thieves approved of, and thought, the Captain's Sentiments very just; and agreed, that they must lay all other Enterprizes aside, to follow this closely, and not to depart till they had succeeded.

I expected no less, said the Captain, from your Courage and Bravery; But first of all, we must make Choice of one
who

who is bold enough to go into the Town dress'd like a Traveller and Stranger, to try if he can hear of any one's being barbarously murdered and massacred, and to endeavour to find out the House where he liv'd. This is a Thing of the first Importance for us to know, that we may do nothing we may have reason to repent of by discovering of our selves in a Country where we have lived so long unknown, and where we have so much Reason to continue: But to prevent our being decieved by any one, who shall take upon himself the Charge of this Commission, and may come and give us a false Report, which may be the Cause of our Ruin; I ask you all, if you don't think it fit, that in that Case, he shall submit to suffer Death.

Without waiting for the Suffrages of all his Companions, one of the Thieves started up, and said, I submit my self to this Law, and think it an Honour to expose my Life by taking such a Commission upon me; but remember, if I do not succeed, that, at least, I neither wanted Courage nor Good-Will to serve my Troop:

After this Robber had received the Thanks and Commendations of the Captain and his Comrades, he disguis'd himself so, that no Body would take him for what he was; and taking his Leave of the Troop that Night, went into the Town just at Day Break; and walked up and down till he came to *Baba Mustapha's* Stall, which was always open before any of the Shops of the Town.

Baba Mustapha was set on his Seat, with an Awl in his Hand, just going to Work, The Thief saluted him, bidding him Good Morrow, and perceiving, that he was o'd, he said, Honest Man, you begin to work very early: Is it possible, that any one of your Age can see so well; I question, if it was somewhat lighter, whether I could see to stitch.

Certainly, reply'd *Baba Mustapha*, you must be a Stranger, and don't know me, for as old as I am, I have extraordinary good Eyes; and perhaps you will not believe me, when I tell you, that I sow'd a dead Body together in a Place, where I had not so much Light as I have now.

The Thief was overjoy'd to think that he had address'd himself at his first coming into the Town, to a Man, who gave him the Intelligence he wanted, without asking

ing him. A dead Body! reply'd he with Amazement, to make him explain himself. How do you say, stitch'd up a dead Body! added he, you mean, you sew'd up his Winding Sheet. No, no, answer'd *Baba Mustapha*, I know what I say; you want to have me to speak out; but you shall know no more.

The Thief wanted no greater an Insight to be perswaded, that he had discovered what he came about; he put his Hand into his Pocket, and pulling out a Piece of Gold, putting it into *Baba Mustapha's* Hand, said to him, I don't want to know your Secret, tho' I can assure you, I would not divulge it, if you trusted me with it. The only Thing, which I desire of you, is to do me the Favour to shew me the House where you stitch'd up the dead Body.

If I would do you that Favour which you ask of me, reply'd *Baba Mustapha*, holding the Money in his Hand, ready to give him again, I assure you I cannot do it; and you may believe me for this Reason: I was carried to a certain Place, where they first blinded me, and then led me to the House, and brought me back again after the same Manner; therefore you see the Impossibility of doing what you desire.

Well, reply'd the Thief, you may remember a little Way, that you was led blindfolded. Come, let me blind your Eyes at the same Place, perhaps, you may remember some Part of the way and Turnings; and as every Body ought to be paid for their Trouble, there's another Piece of Gold for you; gratify me in what I ask of you.

The two Pieces of Gold were great Temptations to *Baba Mustapha*; he looked at them a long Time in his Hand without saying one Word, thinking with himself, what he should do; but at last he pulled out his Purse and put them in. I cannot assure you, said he to the Thief, that I can remember the Way exactly; but since you desire it, I'll try what I can do. At these Words, *Baba Mustapha* got off his Seat, and without shutting up his Shop, where he had nothing valuable to lose, he led the Thief to the Place where *Morgiana* bound his Eyes. 'Twas here, said *Baba Mustapha*, where I was blindfolded, and I turned this Way. The Thief, who had his Handkerchief ready, tied it over his Eyes, and walked by him till he stopp'd. I think said *Baba Mustapha*, I went no farther than here,
and

and stopp'd directly at *Cassim's* House, where *Ali Baba* lived then; upon which the Thief, before he pulled off the Band, marked the Door with a Piece of Chalk, which he had ready in his Hand; and when he pulled it off, he asked him, if he knew whose House that was, to which *Baba Mustapha* reply'd, that as he did not live in that Neighbourhood, he could not tell.

The Thief finding he could discover no more from *Baba Mustapha*, thanked him for the Trouble he had given him, and left him to go back to his Stall, while he returned to the Forest, periwaded, that he should be very well received.

A little after the Thief and *Baba Mustapha* parted, *Morgiana* went out for something, and coming home again, seeing the Mark the Thief had made, she stopp'd to observe it. What's the Meaning of this Mark? said she to herself; somebody intends my Master no Good, or else some Body has been playing the Rogues, be what it will, added she, it is good to fence against the worst. Accordingly she went and fetched a Piece of Chalk, and marked two or three Doors on each Side theirs, the same, without saying a Word to her Master.

In the mean Time the Thief rejoin'd his Troop again in the Forest, and told them the good Success he had, expatiating upon his good Fortune, in meeting with the only Person, so soon, who could inform him of what he wanted to know. All the Robbers listned to him with the utmost Satisfaction; when the Captain commending his Diligence, and addressing himself to them all, said, Comrades, we have no Time to lose, let us all go armed, and that we may not give any Suspicion, let one or two go privately into the Town together, and appoint the Rendezvouz in the great Square; and in the mean Time our Comrades here, and I, will go and find out the House, and then we will consult what is best to be done.

This Speech and Method was approved by all, and according to it, they all got into the Town without being in the least suspected. The Captain, and he that was the Spy, entred the last of all, and when they came to the Street where *Ali Baba* lived, he shewed the Captain one of the Houses which *Morgiana* had marked, and said, that was it: But going a little farther, to prevent being taken

taken notice of, the Captain observed, that the next Door was chalked in the same Manner and Place; and shewing it to his Guide, asked him, which House it was, that, or the first? The Guide was so confounded, that he knew not what Answer to make, and much more, when he and the Captain saw five or six Houses besides, marked after the same Manner. He assured the Captain, with an Oath, that he had marked but one, and could not tell, who had chalked the rest so like that which he marked, and owned, in that Confusion he could not distinguish it.

The Captain finding, that their Design proved abortive went directly to the Place of Rendezvous, and told the first of his Troop, that he met, that they had lost all their Labour, and must return to their Cave the same Way as they came; and set them, himself, the Example.

When the Troop was all got together, the Captain told them the Reason of their Returning; and presently the Conductor was declared, by all, worthy of Death; and with Courage and Resignation to their Suffrages, kneel'd down to receive the Stroke from him that was appointed to give it.

But as for the Preservation of the Troop, so great an Injury was not to go unpunished: Another of the Gang, who promised himself, that he should succeed better, presented himself, and his Offer being accepted, he went and corrupted *Baba Mustapha*, as the other had done, and being shewed the House, marked it in a Place more remote from Sight, with red Chalk.

Not long after *Morgiana*, whose Eyes nothing could escape, went out, and seeing the red Chalk, and arguing after the same manner, with herself, marked the other Neighbours Houses, in the same Place and Manner.

The Thief, at his Return to his Company, valued himself very much upon the Precaution he had taken, which he looked upon as an infallible Way of distinguishing *Ali Baba's* House from his Neighbours; and the Captain, and all of them thought it would do. They conveyed themselves into the Town, in the same Manner as before; and when the Thief and his Captain came to the Street, they found the same Difficulty; at which the Captain was enraged, and he Thief in as great Confusion as his Predecessor.

Thus

Thus the Captain and his Troop, were forced to retire a second Time, and much more dissatisfied; and the Robber, as the Author of the Mistake, underwent the same Punishment, which he willingly submitted to.

The Captain having by this Way lost two brave Fellows of his Troop, was afraid of diminishing it too much by pursuing it, and found, by their Example, that their Heads were not so good as their Hands on such Occasions; and therefore resolved to take upon himself this important Commission.

Accordingly he went and addressed himself to *Baba Mustapha*, who did him the same Piece of Service he had done to the Former. He never amused himself, with setting any particular Mark on the House, but examin'd and observ'd it so carefully, by passing often by it, that it was impossible for him to mistake it.

The Captain very well satisfied with his Journey, and informed in what he wanted to know, returned to the Forest; and when he came into the Cave where the Troop waited for him, he said, Now Comrades, there's nothing can prevent our Revenge; I am certain of the House, and in my Way hither, I have thought how to put it in Execution, and if any one knows a better Expedient, let him communicate it. Then he told them his Contrivance; and as they approved of it, he ordered them to go into the Towns and Villages about, and buy nineteen Mules, and eight and thirty large Jars, and fill one of them full of Oil.

In two or three Days Time, the Thieves purchased the Mules, and Jars; and the Captain put his whole Troop into the Jars, all armed, leaving them Room to breath, by making Holes under the Place where they were tied up at Top, and rubbed the Jars on the Outside with Oil.

Things being thus prepared, the nineteen Mules were loaded with seven and thirty Thieves, in Jars, and the Jar of Oil; and the Captain, as their Driver, set out with them, and got to the Town by the Dusk of the Evening, as he intended. He led them thro' the Streets till he came to *Ali Baba's*, at whose Door he design'd to have knock'd, but was prevented by his sitting there, after Supper, to take a little fresh Air. However, he stopp'd his Mules, and addressed himself to him, and said, I have brought some
Oil

Oil here, a great Way, to sell at to Morrow's Market, and it is now so late, that I do not know where to lodge; if I should not be troublesome to you, do me the Favour to let me lie with you, and I shall be very much obliged to you.

Tho' *Ali Baba* had seen the Captain of the Thieves, and had heard him speak, yet it was impossible for him to know him in the Disguise of an Oil Merchant. He told him, he should be welcome, and immediately opened his Gates for the Mules to go into the Yard. At the same Time he called to a Slave he had, and not only ordered him, when the Mules were unloaded, to put them into the Stable, but to give them Corn and Hay; and then went to *Morgiana*, to bid her get a good hot Supper for his Guest; and make him a good Bed.

When the Captain had unloaded his Mules, and led them into the Stable, and was looking for a Place to lie in all Night, *Ali Baba* went to him, and desired him to walk into the Hall, telling him, he would not by any means suffer him to lie in the Yard all Night. The Captain excused himself very much, upon Account of being troublesome; the better to Disguise the Matter, and at last, with much Importunity, and with an inward Satisfaction consented. *Ali Baba* not only bore him Company, but entertained him with a great many Things to divert him; and when he had supp'd, told him, in taking his Leave for that Night, he might be free, and call for what he wanted.

The Captain rose up at the same Time, and went with him to the Door; and while *Ali Baba* went into the Kitchen to speak to *Morgiana*, he went into the Yard, under a Pretext of looking at his Mules. *Ali Baba*, after charging *Morgiana* afresh to take care of his Guest, said to her, to Morrow Morning I design to go to the Bath before Day, take care of my Bathing-linnen, be ready, and give them to *Abdalla*, which was the Slave's Name; and make me some Broth against I come back; after this he went to Bed.

In the mean Time, the Captain of the Thieves went into the Yard to give his People Orders what to do; and beginning at the first Jar, and so on to the last, said, as soon as I throw some Stones out of the Chamber Window, where I lie, do not fail to cut the Jar open with the Knife you have about you, and come out, and I'll be pre-

sently with you. After this he returned into the Kitchen, and *Morgiana* taking up a Light, conducted him to his Chamber, where, after she had asked him, if he wanted any Thing? she left him; and he to avoid any Suspicion, put the Light out soon after, and laid himself down in his Cloaths, that he might be the more ready to rise again.

Morgiana remembering *Ali Baba's* Orders, got his Bathing-linnen ready, and ordered *Abdalla*, who was not then gone to Bed, to set on the Pot for the Broth; but while she scum'd the Pot, the Lamp went out, and there were no Candles, nor no more Oil in the House, and what to do she did not know, for the Broth must be made; when *Abdalla* seeing her very uneasy, said, don't fret and teaze yourself, but go into the Yard, and take some Oil out of some of the Jars.

Morgiana thanked *Abdalla* for his Advice, and while he went to Bed, that he might be the better able to rise to follow *Ali Baba* to the Bath, she took the Oil Pot, and went into the Yard, and as she came nigh the first Jar, the Thief within it, said softly, Is it Time?

Any other Slave but *Morgiana*, to be so surprized, as she was to find a Man in the Jar instead of the Oil she wanted, would have made so great a Noise, and given an Alarm, attended with ill Consequences, whereas *Morgiana* apprehending immediately the Importance of keeping the Secret, and the Danger she, *Ali Baba*, and his Family were in, and the Necessity of applying a speedy Remedy, without Noise, conceived, at once, the Means, and without shewing the least Concern, answered, *Not yet, but presently*; and went in this Manner, to all the Jars, giving the same Answer, till she came to the Jar of Oil.

By this Means *Morgiana* found that her Master *Ali Baba*, who thought, that he had entertain'd an Oil Merchant, had admitted eight and thirty Thieves into his House, looking on the pretended Merchant, as their Captain, she made what Haste she could to fill her Oil-pot, and returned into the Kitchen, where, as soon as she had lighted her Lamp, she took a great Kettle, and went again to the Oil Jar, filled it full, and set it on the Fire to boil; and as soon as it boiled, went and poured enough into every Jar to stifle and destroy the Thief within.

When

When this Action, worthy of the Courage of *Morgiana*, was executed, without any Noise, as she had projected, she returned into the Kitchen and shut the Door, and having put out the great Fire she had made, to boil the Oil, and leaving just enough to make the Broth, put out also the Lamp, and remained hush'd, resolving not to go to Bed, till she had observed what was to follow.

She had not waited above a Quarter of an Hour, before the Captain of the Thieves waked, got up, and opened the Window, and finding no Light, and hearing no Noise, or any one stirring in the House, gave the Signal, by throwing Stones at the Copper Jars, never disputing, but that they would hear the Sound they gave. Then he listned, and hearing nor perceiving nothing, whereby he could judge, that his Companions stirred, he began to grow very uneasy, and threw again a second and third time, and could not comprehend the Reason that none of them should answer to his Signal; cruelly alarmed, he went softly down into the Yard, and going to the first Jar, and asking the Thief whom he thought alive, if he was asleep? he smell'd the hot boil'd Oil, which sent forth a Steem out of the Jar, and knew, thereby, that his Plot was discovered; and examining all the Jars, found that all his Gang were dead; and by the Oil he missed out of the last Jar, he guessed at the Means and Manner of their Deaths. Enraged, and in Despair, for having failed in his Design, and to lose so many jolly Companions, he forced the Lock of a Door that led from the Yard to the Garden; and climbing over the Walls of several Gardens, at last made his Escape.

When *Morgiana* heard no Noise, nor Sound, after waiting some time, that the Captain did not return, she guessed, that he chose rather to make his Escape by the Gardens, than by the Street Door, which was double locked, satisfied and pleased to have succeeded so well, and secured the House, she went to Bed.

Ali Baba rose before Day, and followed by his Slave, went to the Baths, intirely ignorant of the amazing Accident that had happen'd at Home; for *Morgiana* was in the Right not to wake him before, for fear of losing the Opportunity, and afterwards she thought it needless to disturb him.

When he returned from the Baths, and the Sun was risen, he was very much surprized to see the Oil Jars, and that the Merchant was not gone with the Mules, and asked *Morgiana*, who opened the Door, and let all things stand as they were? The Reason of it, my good Master, answered she, (God preserve you and your Family,) you will be better informed of what you desire to know, when you have seen what I have to shew you, if you will give your self the Trouble to follow me.

As soon as *Morgiana* had shut the Door, *Ali Baba* followed her, and when she brought him into the Yard, she bid him look into the first Jar, and see if there was any Oil; *Ali Baba* accordingly did so, and seeing a Man, started backward, almost frightned out of his Wits, and cryed out. Do not be afraid, said *Morgiana*, the Man you see there can neither do you, nor any Body else, any Harm, he is dead. Ah! *Morgiana*, said *Ali Baba*, what is it you shew me? Explain the meaning of it to me. Moderate your Astonishment, and do not excite the Curiosity of your Neighbours, reply'd *Morgiana*, and I will; for it is of great Importance to keep this Affair secret. Look in all the other Jars.

Ali Baba examined in all the Jars, one after another, and when he came to that, which had the Oil in it, he found it prodigiously sunk, and stood for some time motionless, sometimes looking on the Jars, and sometimes on *Morgiana*, without saying a Word, so great was his Surprise; at last, when he had recovered himself, he said, And what's become of the Merchant?

Merchant! answered she, he's as much one as I am; I'll tell you who he is, and what is become of him: But you had better hear the Story in your own Chamber; for it is Time that you had your Broth after your Bathing.

While *Ali Baba* went into his Chamber, *Morgiana* went into the Kitchen to fetch the Broth, and carry it to him; but before he would drink it, he first bid her satisfy his Impatience, and tell him the Story with all the Circumstances; and she obeyed him.

Last Night, Sir, said she, when you was gone to Bed, I got your Bathing-Linnen ready, and gave them to *Abdalla*, afterwards I set on the Pot for the Broth, and as I was skimming the Pot, the Lamp, for want of Oil, went out;

out; and as there was not a Drop more in the House, I looked for a Candle, but could not find one; *Abadila* seeing me vex'd, put me in mind of the Jars of Oil which stood in the Yard. I took the Oil Pot, and went directly to the Jar, which stood nearest to me, and when I came to it, I heard a Voice within it say, *Is it Time?* I answered, without being dismayed, and comprehending immediately the malicious Intention of the pretended Oil-Merchant, *Not yet, but presently.* Then I went to the next, and another Voice asked me the same Question, and I returned the same Answer; and so on, till I came to the last, which I found full of Oil, with which I filled my Pot.

When I considered, that there were seven and thirty Thieves in your Yard, who only waited for a Signal to be given by the Captain, whom you took to be an Oil-Merchant, and entertained so handsomely, I thought there was no Time to be lost; I carried my Pot of Oil into the Kitchen, lighted the Lamp, and afterwards took the biggest Kettle I had, went and filled it full of Oil, and set it on the Fire to boil, and then went and poured as much into each Jar, as was sufficient to prevent them from executing the pernicious Design they came about: After this I retired into the Kitchen, and put out the Lamp, but before I went to Bed, I waited at the Window to know what Measures the pretended Merchant would take.

After I had watched some Time for the Signal, he threw some Stones against the Jars, out of the Window, and neither hearing, or perceiving any Body stirring, after throwing three Times, he came down, and I saw him go to every Jar; after which, thro' the darkness of the Night, I lost Sight of him. I waited some Time longer, and finding, that he did not return, I never doubted, but that seeing he had missed his Aim, he had made his Escape over the Walls of the Gardens.

This, said *Morgiana*, is the Account you asked of me, and I am convinced, it is the Consequence of an Observation, which I had made for two or three Days before, but did not think fit to acquaint you with; for when I came in one Morning early, I found our Street Door marked with white Chalk, and the next Morning with red, and both Times without knowing what was the Intention of those Chalks: I marked two or three Neighbours Doors, on

each Hand, after the same Manner. If you reflect on this, and what has since happened, you'll find it to be a Plot of the Thieves of the Forest, of whose Gang there are two wanting, and now they are reduced to three: All this shews, that they had sworn your Destruction, and it's proper you should stand upon your Guard, while there's one of them alive: for my Part, I shall not neglect any Thing necessary to your Preservation, which I am in Duty obliged to regard.

When *Morgiana* had left off speaking, *Ali Baba* was so sensible of the great Service she had done him, that he said to her, I will not die without rewarding you as you deserve; I owe my Life to thee, and for the first Token of my Acknowledgment, I give thee thy Liberty from this Moment. I am perswaded with thee, that the forty Thieves have laid all manner of Snares for me. God, by thy Means, has delivered me from them, and I hope will continue to preserve me from their wicked Designs, and by averting the Danger which threatened me, will deliver the World from their Persecution, and of that cursed Race of People: All that we have to do, is to bury them immediately, and with all the Secrecy imaginable; but that *Abdalla* and I will undertake.

Ali Baba's Garden was very long, and shaded at the farther End by a great Number of Trees; thither he and the Slave went, and dug a Trench long and wide enough to hold all the Thieves, and were not long a doing it by Reason the Earth was light. Afterwards they took the Bodies out of the Jars, pulled off their Arms, and carried them to the End of Garden, and filled up the Trench again. When this was done, *Ali Baba* hid the Jars; and for the Mules, as he had no Occasion for them, he sent them at different Times to be sold.

While *Ali Baba* took these Measures to prevent the World knowing how he came by his Riches in so short a Time, the Captain of the Thieves returned to the Forest, in a most inconceivable Mortification; and in the Agitation, or rather Confusion, he was in at his ill Success, which proved so much contrary to what he promised himself, he entered the Cave, not being able, all the Way from the Town to come to any Resolution what to do to *Ali Baba*.

The Loneliness of the Place seemed frightful to him. Where are you, my brave Lads, cry'd he, my old Companions? What can I do without you? how unhappy am I to lose you by so fatal and so base a Fate, and so unworthy your Courage; had you died with your Sabres in your Hands, like brave Men as you were, my Regret had been less? When shall I get so gallant a Troop again? and if I would, can I undertake it without exposing so much Gold and Treasure to him who hath already enriched himself out of it: I cannot, nor ought not to think of it, before I have taken away his Life. Well, I will undertake that my self, which I could not accomplish with so powerful Assistance, and when I have taken Care to secure this Treasure from being pillaged: I'll provide for it new Masters, and successors, who shall preserve and augment it to all Posterity. This Resolution being taken, he was not in the least embarrass'd how to execute it; but easy in his Mind, and full of Hopes, slept all that Night very quietly.

When he waked the next Morning, which was pretty early, he dressed himself, as he had proposed, very agreeable to the Project he had in his Head, and went to the Town, and took a Lodging in a *Khan*, or Inn: And as he expected, what had happened at *Ali Baba's*, might make a great Noise in the Town, he asked his Host, by way of Discourse, what News there was in the City? upon which the Inn-Keeper told him a great many Things, which did not concern him in the least. He judged by this, that the Reason, why *Ali Baba* kept this Affair so secret, was for fear People should know where the Treasure lay, and the Means of coming to it; upon which Account he sought his Life: And this urged him the more to neglect nothing to rid himself of so dangerous a Person, and by as secret a Way.

The next Thing that the Captain had to do, was to convey a great many Sorts of rich Stuffs, and fine Linnen to his Lodgings, which he did by a great many Journeys to the Forest on a Horse's Back, but with all the necessary Precautions imaginable, and to dispose the Merchandizes, when he had amassed them together, he took a Shop which happened to be opposite to that which was *Cassim's*, which *Ali Baba's* Son traded in.

He took upon him the Name of *Cogia Houffain*, and as a new Comer, was according to Custom, extreamly civil and complaisant to all his Neighbours: And as *Ali Baba's* Son was young and handsome, and a Man of good Sense, and was often obliged to discourse with him; he strove to cultivate much firmer and stronger, when after two or three Days, he understood whose Son he was. To serve his Ends, he carefs'd him after the most ingaging manner, made him some small Presents, and often asked him to dine and sup with him; and then treated him very handsomely.

Ali Baba's Son did not care to lie under such Obligations without making the like Return; but was so much straitened for want of Room in his Lodging, that he could not entertain him so well as he could have wished, therefore acquainted his Father *Ali Baba*, with his Thoughts, and told him, that it did not look well for him to receive such Favours from *Cogia Houffain* without inviting him again.

Ali Baba took Care of the Treat himself, with a great deal of Pleasure. Son, said he, to Morrow's *Friday*, which is a Day that the Shops are shut up, get him to take a Walk with you after Dinner, and as you come back, pass by my Door, and call in, it will look better to have it happen accidentally, than if you give him a formal Invitation. I'll go and order *Morgiana* to provide a Supper.

The next Day after Dinner, *Ali Baba's* Son and *Cogia Houffain* walked out, and as they returned, *Ali Baba's* Son led *Cogia Houffain* thro' the Street where his Father lived, and when they came to the House, he stopped and knocked at the Door. This, Sir, said he, is my Father's House, who, upon the Account I have given him of your Friendship, charged me to procure him the Honour of your Acquaintance; and I desire you to add this one Favour more, to those I am already indebted to you.

Tho' it was the sole Aim of *Cogia Houffain* to introduce himself into *Ali Baba's* House, that he might kill him without making any Noise, and hazarding his own Life, yet he excused himself, and offered to take his Leave; but a Slave having opened the Door, *Ali Baba's* Son took him obligingly by the Hand, and in a manner forced him in.

Ali Baba received *Cogia Houffain* with a smiling Countenance, and in the most obliging Manner he could wish for: He thanked him for all the Favours he had done his Son, adding withal, that he was the more obliged to him, because his Son was a young Man, who could not very well know the World, and might profit by his Example.

Cogia Houffain returned the Compliment by assuring *Ali Baba*, that tho' his Son might not have the Experience of older Men, he had so much good Sense, as stood him in stead thereof: And after a little more Conversation on different Subjects, offered again to take his Leave, when *Ali Baba* stopping him, said, Where are you going, Sir in so much Haste; I beg you would do me the Honour to take a Supper with me, tho' what I have to give you is not worth your Acceptance; but such as it is, you are heartily welcome to. Sir, reply'd *Cogia Houffain*, I am thoroughly perswaded of your Good-will, and if I ask the Favour of you, not to take it ill, that I do not accept of your obliging Invitation; I beg of you to believe, that it does not proceed from any Slight, or Intention of Affront, but from a certain Reason, which you would approve of, if you knew it.

And what may that Reason be, Sir, reply'd *Ali Baba*, if I may be so bold as to ask you? It is, answered *Cogia Houffain*, that I can eat no Victuals that has any Salt in them; therefore judge how I should look at your Table. If that's the only Reason, said *Ali Baba*, it ought not to deprive me of the Honour of your Company at Supper: for in the first Place, there's no Salt ever put into my Bread, and for the Meat we shall have to Night, I promise you, there shall be none: I'll go and take care of that; there ore you must do me the Favour to stay; I'll come again immediately.

Ali Baba went into the Kitchen, and ordered *Morgiana* to put no Salt to the Meat that was to be dress'd that Night; and besides to make two or three Ragouts, but be sure to put no Salt in them.

Morgiana, who was always ready to obey her Master, could not help, this Time, seeming somewhat dissatisfied at his new Order. Who is this difficult Man, said she, who eats no Salt with his Meat? your Supper will be spoiled, if I keep it back so long. Don't be angry *Morgiana*,

reply'd *Ali Baba*, he is an honest Man, therefore do as I did you.

Morgiana obeyed, tho' with some Reluctancy, and had a great Curiosity to see this Man who eat no Salt: To this End, when she had done what she had to do in the Kitchen, and *Abdalla* had laid the Clo'h, she helped to carry up the Plates, and looking at *Cogia Houssain*, knew him at the first Sight, to be the Captain of the Thieves, notwithstanding his Disguise; and examining him very carefully, perceived that he had a Dagger hid under his Garment. I am not in the least amazed, said she to herself, that this wicked Wretch, who is my Master's greatest Enemy, would eat no Salt with him since he intends to assassinate him; but I will prevent him.

When *Morgiana* had sent up the Supper by *Abdalla*, while they were eating, she made the necessary Preparations for executing one of the boldest Acts which could be thought on, and had just done, when *Abdalla* came again for the Desert of Fruit, which she carried up, and as soon *Abdalla* had taken the Meat away, set it upon the Table; after that she set a little Table and three Glasses by *Ali Baba*, and going out took *Abdalla* along with her to go to sup together, and to give *Ali Baba* the more Liberty of Conversation with his Guest.

Then the pretended *Cogia Houssain*, or rather Captain of the Thieves, thought he had a favourable Opportunity to kill *Ali Baba*. I will, said he to himself, make the Father and Son both drunk, and then, the Son, whose Life I intend to spare, will not be able to prevent my stabbing his Father to the Heart; and while the Slaves are at Supper, or asleep in the Kitchen, I can make my Escape over the Gardens, as before.

Instead of going to Supper, *Morgiana*, who penetrated into the Intentions of the Counterfeit, *Cogia Houssain*, would not give him Leave to put his Villainous Design in Execution, but dress'd her self like a Dancer, girded her Waste with a Silver gilt Girdle, to which there hung a Poynard of the same Metal, and put a handsome Mask on her Face. When she had thus disguised her self, she said to *Abdalla*, take this Tabor and let us go and divert our Master and his Guest, as we are wont to do of a Night when he is alone.

Abdalla

Abdalla took his Tabor and played before *Morgiana* all the Way into the Hall, who, when she came to the Door, made a low Courtesy, by Way of asking Leave to shew what she could do; and *Abdalla* seeing that his Master had a Mind to say something, left off playing. Come in *Morgiana*, said *Ali Baba*, and let *Cogia Houssain* see what you can do, that he may tell us, what he thinks of you: But Sir, said he, turning towards *Cogia Houssain*, don't think, that I put my self to any Expence, to give you this Diversion, since these are my Slaves; and my Cook, and I, hope you will not find the Entertainment they shall give us, disagreeable.

Cogia Houssain, who did not expect this Diversion after Supper, began to fear that he should not have the Opportunity that he designed to have made Use of, but hoped for he missed it now, to have it another Time, by keeping up a Friendly Correspondence; therefore, tho' he could have wish'd *Ali Baba* would have let it alone, he pretended to be obliged to him for it, and had the Complaisance to express a Pleasure which he could willingly have dispenced with.

As soon as *Abdalla* saw that *Ali Baba* and *Cogia Houssain* had done talking, he began to play on his Tabor, and accompanied it with an Air, to which *Morgiana*, who was an excellent Dancer, danced after such a Manner, as would have created Admiration in any other but *Cogia Houssain*, who was more attentive to his own Designs.

After she had danced several Dances with a great deal of Justness, she drew the poynard, and holding it in her Hand, danced a Dance, which was very surprizing for the many different Figures, and fine Movements it required. Sometimes she presented the Poynard to one's Breast, and sometimes to another's, and oftentimes seemed to strike her own. At last, when she was just out of Breath, she snatched the Tabor from *Abdalla* with her left Hand, and holding the Dagger in her Right, presented the Side where there was a Chink. after the Manner of those who get their Livelihoods by Dancing, to try the Liberality of the Spectators.

Ali Baba put a Piece of Gold into the Tabor, as did also his Son, and *Cogia Houssain* seeing, that she was coming to him, had pulled out his Purse to make her a Present too; but while he was putting his Hand into it, *Morgiana*,

with a Courage and Resolution, worthy of herself, plunged the Poygnard into his Heart.

Ali Baba and his Son were very much frightened at this Action. Ah! unhappy Wretch, cry'd *Ali Baba*, what hast thou done to ruin me and my Family? 'Twas to preserve you, and not to ruin you, answered *Morgiana*; for see here, said she, (opening *Cogia Houssain's* Garment, and shewing the Dagger,) what an Enemy you had entertained; look well at him, and you'll find him to be both the pretended Oil-Merchant, and the Captain of the Gang of forty Thieves. Remember too, that he would eat no Salt with you, and what would you have more to inform you of his wicked Design? Before I saw him, I suspected him, when you told me you had such a Guest, and when I saw him, found that my Suspicion was not groundless.

Ali Baba, who was immediately sensible of the new Obligation he had to *Morgiana*, for saving his Life a second Time, embraced her. *Morgiana*, said he, I gave thee thy Liberty, and then promised thee, that my Acknowledgment should not stop there, but that I would express it much farther, and now I'll give a Proof of it by making thee my Daughter-in-Law. Then addressing himself to his Son, he said to him, I believe you, Son, to be so dutiful a Child, that you will not refuse *Morgiana* for to be your Wife. You see that *Cogia Houssain* sought your Friendship with a Treacherous Design to take away my Life; and if he had succeeded, there's no Dispute, but he would have sacrificed you too his Revenge. Consider, that by marrying *Morgiana*, you marry the Support of my Family, and your own.

The Son far from shewing any Dislike, readily consented to the Marriage; not only because he would not disobey his Father, but that his Inclination prompted him to it.

After this, they thought of burying the Captain of the Thieves with his Comrades, and did it so privately, that no Body knew any Thing of it, till a great many Years after, when not any one had any Concern in the Publication of this remarkable History.

A few Days afterwards, *Ali Baba* celebrated the Nuptials of his Son, and *Morgiana*, with great Solemnity, and was very glad to see, that his Friends and Neighbours, whom

whom he invited, had no Knowledge of the true Motives of that Marriage; but that those Persons, who were not unacquainted with *Morgiana's* good Qualities, should commend his Generosity.

Ali Baba forbore a long Time after this Marriage, from going again to the Thieves Cave, from the Time he brought his Brother *Cassim*, and some Bags of Gold, on three Asses, for Fear of being surprized by the other two Thieves, whom he could give no Account of, but supposed to be alive.

But at the Year's End, when he found they had not made any Attempt to disturb him, he had a great Inclination to make another Journey, taking the most necessary Precautions for his Safety: Accordingly he mounted his Horse, and when he came to the Cave, and saw no Footsteps of neither Man nor Horse, he looked upon it as a good Sign; he alighted off his Horse, and ty'd him to a Tree, and presenting himself before the Door, pronouncing these Words. *Open Sesamum*, the Door opened, he went in, and by the Condition he found Things in, he judged, that no Body had ever been there since the false *Cogia Houssain*, when he fetch'd the Goods for his Shop, and that the Gang of forty Thieves was quite destroyed, and never disputed but he was the only Person in the World, who had the Secret of going into the Cave, and that all the Treasure was solely at his Disposal; and having brought a Valise along with him, he put as much Gold into it as his Horse could carry; and then returned to Town.

Afterwards *Ali Baba* carried his Son to the Cave, taught him the Secret, which they handed down to their Posterity; and using this good fortune with Moderation, lived in great Honour and Splendor serving the greatest Offices of the City.

Here the Sultaneſs *Scheherazade* ended her Story; but perceiving that it was not yet Day, began to tell the Sultan *Schahriar* that which follows.



The Sotry of Ali Cogia, a Merchant of Bagdad.

IN the Reign of the Califf *Haroun Alraschid*, (said the Sultaneſs,) there lived at *Bagdad*, a Merchant whose Name was *Ali Cogia*, that was neither one of the richeſt, nor the meanest Sort. He was a Batchelor, and lived Maſter of his own Actions, in the Houſe which was his Father's, very well content with the Profit he made of his Trading; but happening to dream for three Nights together, that a venerable old Man came to him, and with a ſevere Look, reprimanded him for not having made a Pilgrimage to *Mecca*, he was very much troubled.

As a good Muſſulman, he knew he was obliged to undertake a Pilgrimage, but as he had a Houſe, Shop, and Goods, he always believed, that they might ſtand for a ſufficient Reason to excuſe him, endeavouring by his Charity, and other good Deeds, to atone for that neglect: But after this Dream, his Conſcience was ſo much prick'd, that the Fear, leſt any Miſfortune ſhould befall him, made him reſolve, not to defer it any longer; and to be able to go that Year, he ſold off his Houſhold Goods, his Shop, and with it the greateſt Part of his Merchandizes, reſerving only ſome which he thought might turn to a better Account at *Mecca*; and meeting with a Tenant for his Houſe, let that alſo.

Things being thus diſpoſed, he was ready to go, when the *Bagdad* Caravan ſet out for *Mecca*; the only thing he had to do, was to ſecure a Sum of a thouſand Pieces of Gold, which would be troubleſome to carry along with him, beſides the Money he had ſet apart to defray his Expences. To this End he made choice of a Jar, of a proportionable Size, put the thouſand Pieces of Gold into it, and covered them over with Olives. When he had cloſed the Mouth of the Jar, he carried it to a Merchant, a particular Friend of his, and ſaid to him, You know, Brother, that in two or three Days time, I ſet out with the Caravan on my Pilgrimage to *Mecca*; and I beg the Favour of
you.

you, that you would take upon you, the Charge of keeping a Jar of Olives for me till I return. The Merchant promised him he would, and in an obliging Manner, said, Here take the Key of my Warehouse, and set your Jar where you please; I promise you shall find it there when you come again.

On that Day the Caravan was to set out, *Ali Cogia* added himself to it, with a Camel (loaded with what Merchandizes he thought fit to carry along with him,) which served him to ride on, and arrived safe at *Mecca*, where he visited, along with other Pilgrims, the Temple so much celebrated and frequented by all Mussulmen, every Year, who come from all Parts of the World, and observe religiously, the Ceremonies prescribed them; and when he had acquitted himself of the Duties of his Pilgrimage, he exposed the Merchandizes he had brought with him, to sell or exchange them.

Two Merchants passing by, and seeing *Ali Cogia's* Goods, thought them so fine and choice, that they stopp'd some Time to look at them, tho' they had no Occasion for them; and when they had satisfied their Curiosity, one of them said to the other, as they were going away, If this Merchant knew to what Profit these Goods would turn at *Cairo*, he would carry them thither, and not sell them here, tho' this is a good Mart.

Ali Cogia heard these Words; and as he had often heard talk of the Beauties of *Egypt*, he was resolved to take this Opportunity of seeing them, and taking a Journey thither; therefore after having pack'd up his Goods again, instead of returning to *Bagdad*, he set out for *Egypt*, with a Caravan of *Cairo*; and when he came thither, he found his Account in his Journey, and in a few Days sold all his Goods to a greater Advantage than he hoped for. With the Money he bought others, with an Intent to go to *Damascus*, and while he waited for the Opportunity of a Caravan, which was to set forwards in six Weeks, he saw all the Rarities at *Cairo*, as the Pyramids, &c. and rowing up and down the River *Nile*, viewed the most noble and charmingly situated Towns on each Side.

As the *Damascus* Caravan took *Jerusalem* in their Way, our *Bagdad* Merchant had the Opportunity of seeing the Temple, looked upon by all Mussulmen, to be the most holy, after that of *Mecca*. Al i

Ali Cogia found *Damascus* so delicious a Place, abounding with fine Meads, pleasantly watered, and delightful Gardens, that it exceeded the Descriptions given of it in History. Here he made along Abode, but nevertheless had not forgot his native *Bagdad*, for which Place he set out, and arrived at *Halep*, where he made some Stay; and from thence, after having pass'd the *Euphrates*, he went his Course to *Moussel*, with an Intention, in his Return to come down the *Tigris*.

When *Ali Cogia* came to the *Moussel*, the *Persian* Merchants, with whom he travelled from *Halep*, and had contracted a great Friendship, had got so great an Ascendent over him, by their Civilities, and agreeable Behaviour, that they easily perswaded him not to leave them, till they came to *Schiraz*, from whence he might easily return to *Bagdad*, with a Considerable Profit. They led him thro' the Towns, *Sultania*, *Rei*, *Coam*, *Lafshan*, *Ispahan*, and from thence to *Schiraz*; from whence he was so complaisant, as to bear them Company to the *Indies*, and so came back again with them to *Schiraz*; insomuch, that accounting for the Abode he made in every Town, he was seven Years absent from *Bagdad*, whither he then resolv'd to return.

All this Time his Friend, with whom he had left his Jar of Olives, neither thought of him nor them; but just at the Time when he was coming with a small Caravan from *Schiraz* one Evening, when this Merchant was supping at Home with his Family, and the Discourse happening to fall upon Olives, his Wife was desirous to eat some, saying that she had not tasted any of a long while. Now you talk of Olives, said the Merchant, you put me in mind of a Jar which *Ali Cogia* left with me seven Years ago, when he went to *Mecca*, and put it himself in my Warehouse, for me to keep for him against he returned; but what is become of him I know not; tho' when the Caravan came back, they told me, he was gone for *Egypt*. Certainly he must be dead, since he has not returned in all this Time; and we may eat the Olives, if they prove good. Lend me a Plate, and a Candle, and I will go and fetch some of them, and we'll see.

For God's Sake, good Husband, said the Wife, do not commit so base an Action; you know, that nothing is more

more sacred than what is committed to one's Care and Trust: You say, *Ali Cogia* has been gone to *Mecca* and is not returned: and they say, that he is gone into *Egypt*, and how do you know, but that he may be gone farther? as you have no News of his Death, he may return to Morrow, for any Thing you can tell, and what a Disgrace would it be to you and your Family, if he should come, and you not to restore him his Jar in the same Condition he left it? I declare I have no Desire of the Olives, and will not taste of them; for when I mentioned them, it was only by way of Discourse; besides, do you think, that they can be good, after they have been kept so long? they must be all mouldy and spoil'd; and if *Ali Cogia* should return, as I have a great Fancy he will, and should find they have been opened, what will he think of your Honour? I beg of you to let them alone.

The Wife had not argued so long with her Husband, but that she read his Obstinacy in his Face. In short, he never regarded what she said, but got up, took a Candle, and a Platter, and went into the Ware-house. Well, Husband, said the Wife again, remember, I have no Hand in this Business; and that you cannot lay any Thing to my Charge, if you should have cause to repent of this Action.

The Merchant's Ears were deaf to these Remonstrances of his Wife, and he still persisted in his Design: When he came into the Warehouse he open'd the Jar, and found the Olives all mouldy; but to see if they were all so to the Bottom, he turn'd the Jar topsy turvy upon the Plate, and by shaking the Jar, some of the Gold tumbled out.

At the Sight of the Gold, the Merchant, who was naturally covetous, look'd into the Jar, and perceiv'd, that he had shaken out almost all the Olives, and what remained, was Gold Coin, fast-wedged in, he immediately put the Olives into the Jar again, and returned to his Wife. Indeed, my Dear, said he, you was in the right to say, that the Olives were all mouldy, for I found them so, and have made up the Jar, just as *Ali Cogia* left it, so that he will not perceive, that they have been touch'd, if he should return. You had better have taken my Advice, said the Wife, and not meddled with them. God grant no Mischief comes of it.

The

The Merchant was not in the least affected with his Wife's last Words, but spent almost the whole Night, in thinking how he might appropriate *Ali Cogia's* Gold to his own Use, in case *Ali Cogia* should return and ask him for the Jar. The next Morning he went and bought some Olives of that Year, took out the Old and the Gold, and filled the Jar with the new, covered it up, and put it in the same Place.

About a Month after the Merchant had committed so base an Action, for which he ought to pay dear, *Ali Cogia* arrived at *Bagdad*; and as he had let his House, he alighted at a *Khan*, chusing to stay there, till he gave his Tenant Warning, that he might provide himself of another House.

The next Morning, *Ali Cogia* went to pay a Visit to the Merchant, his Friend, who receiv'd him in the most obliging Manner imaginable, and express'd a great deal of Joy at his Return, after so many Years absence, telling him, that he had begun to lose all Hopes of ever seeing him again.

After the usual Compliments on such a Meeting, *Ali Cogia* desired the Merchant to return him the Jar of Olives, which he had left with him, and to excuse the Liberty he had taken in giving him so much Trouble.

My dear Friend, *Ali Cogia*, reply'd the Merchant, you are to blame to make all these Apologies on such an Occasion; I should have made as free with you: There, take the Key of my Warehouse, go and take it; you will find it in the same Place where you left it.

Ali Cogia went into the Merchant's Warehouse, took his Jar; and after having returned him the Key, and Thanks for the Favour he had done him, returned with it to the *Khan*, where he lodged, and opening the Jar, and putting his Hand down to the Bottom to see for his Gold, was very much surprized to find none. At first, he thought he might perhaps be mistaken, and to discover the Truth, poured out all the Olives, without so much as finding one single Piece of Money. His Astonishment was so great, that he stood for some time motionless; then lifting up his Hands and Eyes to Heaven, he cryed out, Is it possible, that a Man, whom I took for my very good Friend, should be guilty of so base an Action?

Ali Cogia cruelly frighted at so considerable a Loss, returned immediately to the Merchant; My good Friend, said he, do not be surprized to see me come back so soon; I own the Jar of Olives to be the same put into your Magazine, but with the Olives I put a thousand Pieces of Gold into it, which I don't find: Perhaps you might have had an Occasion for them, and used them in your Traffick: It so, they are at your Service; only put me out of my Pain, and give me an Acknowledgment, and pay them me again at your own Convenience.

The Merchant, who expected that *Ali Cogia* would come with such a Complaint, had meditated upon a ready Answer. Friend, *Ali Cogia*, said he, when you brought your Jar of Olives to me, I never touched it, but gave you the Key of my Warehouse, whither you carried it your self; and did not you find it in the same Place, covered in the same Manner as when you left it? and if you put Gold in it, you have found it again: You told me, that there were Olives, and I believed so. This is all I know of the Matter, and you may believe me, if you please; for I never touched them.

Ali Cogia made use of all the mild Ways he could think of, to oblige the Merchant to do him Right. I love Peace and Quietness, said he to him, and shall be very sorry to come to those Extremities, which will bring the greatest Disgrace upon you: Consider, that Merchants, as we are, ought to forsake all Interest to preserve a good Reputation. Once again, I tell you, I should be very much concern'd, if your Obstinacy should oblige me to force you to do me Justice; for I would rather, almost, lose what is my Right, than have Recourse to Law.

Ali Cogia, reply'd the Merchant, you agree, that you left the Jar of Olives with me; and now you have taken it away, you come and ask me for a thousand Pieces of Gold. Did you ever tell me, that such a Sum was in the Jar? I knew nothing but that they were Olives. I wonder, you do not as well ask me for Diamonds and Pearls; be gone about your Business, and do not raise a Mob about my Shop.

These last Words were pronounced in so great an Heat and Passion, as not only made those who stood about the Shop

Shop already, stay longer, and created a great Mob; but made the neighbouring Merchants come out of their Shops to see what was the Difference between *Ali Cogia* and the Merchant, and to endeavour to reconcile them; and when *Ali Cogia* had inform'd them of his Grievance, they asked the Merchant, what he had to say?

The Merchant owned that he had kept the Jar for *Ali Cogia* in his Warehouse, but denied that ever he meddled with it, and swore, that he knew nothing, but that it was full of Olives, as *Ali Cogia* told him, and bid them all bear Witness of the Insult and Affront offered him. You bring it upon your self, said *Ali Cogia*, taking him by the Arm; but since you use me so basely, I cite you according to the Law of God: Let us see whether you will have the Assurance to say the same Thing before the Cady.

The Merchant could not refuse this Summons, which every good Mussulman is bound to observe, or be declar'd a Rebel against his Religion, but said, with all my Heart, we shall soon see, who is in the Wrong.

Ali Cogia carried the Merchant before the Cady, before whom he accused him of cheating him of a thousand Pieces of Gold, which he had left with him. The Cady asked him, if he had any Witnesses; to which he reply'd, that he had not taken that necessary Precaution, because he believed the Person he trusted his Money with to be his Friend, and always took him for an honest Man.

The Merchant made the same Defence he had done before the Merchants his Neighbours, offering to make Oath, that he never had the Money he was accused of, but that he did not so much as know there was such a Sum; upon which the Cady took his Oath, and afterwards dismissed him.

Ali Cogia extremely mortified, to find that he must sit down with so considerable a Loss protested against the Sentence the Cady gave, declaring, that he would appeal to the Caliph *Haroun Alraschid*, who would do him Justice; which Protestation the Cady only looked upon as the Effect of the common Resentment of all those who lose their Cause; and thought he had done his Duty, in acquitting a Person accused without Witnesses.

While the Merchant returned home triumphing over *Ali Cogia*, and overjoyed at his good Fortune, *Ali Cogia* went

went to get a Petition drawn up, and the next Day observing the Time when the Caliph came from Prayers in the Afternoon, he placed himself in the Street he was to pass thro', and holding his Hand with the Petition, an Officer appointed for that Purpose, who always goes before the Caliph, came and took it from him.

As *Ali Cogia* knew, that it was the Caliph's Custom to read the Petitions as he went into the Palace, he went into the Court, and waited till the Officer came out of the Caliph's Apartment, who told him the Hour the Caliph had appointed to hear him ; and then asking him where the Merchant lived, he sent to him to signify the Caliph's Pleasure.

That same Evening the Caliph, the Grand Visier *Giafar*, and *Mesrour* the Chief of the Eunuchs, went all disguised thro' the Town, as I have already told your Majesty, it was usual so to do ; and passing thro' a Street, the Caliph heard a Noise, and mending his Pace, he came to a Gate, which led into a little Court, thro' a Hole, he perceived ten or twelve Children playing by Moon-light.

The Caliph, who was curious to know at what Play these Children play'd, sat down upon a Bench, which he found just by, and still looking thro' the Hole, he heard one of the briskest and liveliest of the Children say, come let us play at the Cady. I will be the Cady ; bring *Ali Cogia* and the Merchant, who cheated him of the thousand Pieces of Gold, before me.

These Words of the Child put the Caliph in Mind of the Petition *Ali Cogia* had given him that Day, and made him to redouble his Attention.

As *Ali Cogia's* Affairs, and the Merchant's made a great Noise, and was in every Body's Mouth in *Bagdad*, it had not escaped the Children, who all accepted the Proposition with Joy, and agreed on the Part each was to act ; not one of them refused him that made the Proposal to be Cady ; and when he had taken his Seat, which he did with all the seeming gravity of a Cady, another as an Officer of the Court, presented two before him ; one as *Ali Cogia* and the other as the Merchant, against whom he complained.

Then

Then the pretended Cady directing his Discourse to the feigned *Ali Cogia* asked him, what he had to lay to that Merchant's Charge?

Ali Cogia, after a low Bow, informed the young Cady of the Fact, and related every Particular, and afterwards begged, that he would use his Authority, that he might not lose so considerable a Sum of Money.

Then the Cady turned about to the Merchant, asked him, why he did not return the Money which *Ali Cogia* demanded of him?

The young Merchant alledged the same Reasons as the real Merchant had done before the Cady himself, and proffered to confirm it by an Oath, that what he had said was Truth.

Not so fast, reply'd the pretended Cady, before we come to your Oath, I should be glad to see the Jar of Olives. *Ali Cogia*, said he, addressing himself to the Lad, who acted that Part, have you brought the Jar? No, reply'd he; then go and fetch it immediately.

The pretended *Ali Cogia* went immediately, and returning as soon, feigned to bring a Jar before the Cady, telling him, that it was the same he left with the accused Person, and took away again: But to omit no Part of the Formality, the supposed Cady asked the Merchant, if it was the same; and as by his Silence, he seemed not to deny it, he ordered it to be opened. He that represented *Ali Cogia*, seemed to take off the Cover, and the pretended Cady made as if he looked into it. They are fine Olives, said he, let me taste of them; and then pretending to eat of them, added, they are excellent; but continued he, I cannot think, that Olives will keep seven Years, and be so good; send for two Olive Merchants, and let me hear what their Opinion is. Then two Boys, as Olive Merchants, presented themselves. Are you Olive Merchants, said the sham Cady? Tell me how long Olives will keep to be fit to eat.

Sir, reply'd the two Merchants, let us take what Care we can, they will hardly be worth any Thing at the third Year; for then they have neither Taste nor Colour. If it be so, answered the Cady, look into that Jar, and tell me, how old those Olives are.

The two Merchants pretended to examine, and to taste the Olives, and told the Cady, they were new and good.

You

You are deceiv'd, said the young Cady, there's *Ali Cogia* there, says they were put into the Jar seven Years ago.

Sir, reply'd the Merchants, we can assure you, they are of this Year's Growth; and we will maintain there's not a Merchant in *Bagdad*, but what will say the same.

The same Merchant, that was accused, would fain have objected against the Evidence of the Olive Merchants, but the Cady would not suffer him. Hold your Tongue, said he, you are a Rogue, and ought to be hang'd. Then the Children put an End to their Play, by clapping their Hands with a great deal of Joy; and seizing the Criminal, to carry him to Execution.

I cannot express, how much the Caliph *Haroun Alraschid* admired the Wisdom and Sense of the Boy, who had passed so just a Sentence in an Affair which was to be pleaded before him the next Day, and rising up off the Bench he sat on, he asked the Grand Visier, who heard all that passed, what he thought of it? Indeed, Commander of the true Believers, answered the Grand Visier *Giasar*, I am surprized to find so much Sense in one so young.

But, answered the Caliph, dost thou know one Thing, I am to pronounce Sentence in this very Cause to Morrow, and that the true *Ali Cogia* presented his Petition to me to Day, and do you think, continued he, that I can judge better? I think not, answered the Visier, if the Case is, as the Children represented it. Take notice then of this House, said the Caliph, and bring the Boy to me to Morrow, that he may judge of this Affair in my Presence; and also ordered the Cady, who acquitted the roguish Merchant, to attend to take Example by a Child. Besides, take Care to bid *Ali Cogia* bring his Jar of Olives with him; and let two Olive Merchants be present. After this Charge he pursued his Rounds without meeting with any Thing worth his Attention.

The next Day the Visier went to the House, where the Caliph had been a Witness of the Childrens Play, and asked for the Master of it; but he being abroad, his Wife came to him. He asked her, if she had any Children? to which she answered, she had three; and called them. My brave Boys, said the Visier, which of you was the Cady, when you played together last Night; the eldest made Answer, he was, but not knowing why he asked the Question,

on, coloured. Come along with me Child, said the Grand Visier, the Commander of the Faithful wants to see you.

The Mother was in a great Fright, when she saw the Grand Visier would take her Son with him, and asked him, upon what Account the Caliph wanted him? The Grand Visier promised her that he should return again in an Hour's Time, then he would tell her, assuring her, he should come to no Harm: But, pray Sir, said the Mother, give me leave to dress him first, that he may be fit to appear before the Commander of the Faithful, which the Visier readily complied with.

As soon as the Child was dress'd, the Visier carried him, and presented him to the Caliph, at the Time he had appointed *Ali Cogia* and the Merchant.

The Caliph, who saw that the Boy was dash'd, to encourage him, said, come to me Child, and tell me, if it was you, that determin'd the Affair between *Ali Cogia* and the Merchant, that cheated him of his Money. I saw and heard you, and am very well pleased with you; the Boy answered modestly, that it was he. Well, my Dear, reply'd the Caliph, come and sit down by me, and you shall see the true *Ali Cogia*, and the true Merchant.

Then the Califf set him on the Throne by him, and asked for the two Parties. When they were called, they came and prostrated themselves before the Throne, bowing their Heads quite down to the Tapestry. Afterwards the Caliph said to them, Plead both of you your Causes before this Child, who shall do you both Justice; and if he should be at a Loss, I'll rectify it.

Ali Cogia and the Merchant pleaded one after the other, as before; but when the Merchant propos'd his Oath, the Child said, it is too soon, it's proper that we should see the Jar of Olives.

At these Words *Ali Cogia* presented the Jar, placed it at the Caliph's Feet, and opened it. The Caliph looked upon the Olives, and took one and tasted of it. Afterwards the Merchants were called, who examined the Olives, and reported, that they were good, and of that Year. The Boy told them, that *Ali Cogia* assured him, that it was seven Years since he put them up, and they returned the same

An-

Answer as the Children, who represented them the Night before.

Tho' the Merchant, who was accused, saw plainly, that these Merchants Opinion would condemn him, yet he would say something in his own Justification. When the Child, instead of ordering him to be hanged, look'd upon the Califf, and said, Commander of the Faithful, this is no jesting Matter; it is your Majesty that must condemn him to Death, and not me, though I did it Yesterday in my Play.

The Caliph fully satisfied of the Merchant's Villany, gave him into the Hands of the Ministers of Justice to be hang'd; which Sentence was executed upon him, after he had confessed, where he had hid the thousand Pieces of Gold, which were restored to *Ali-Cogia*. Then that Monarch, who was all-just and equitable, turning to the Cady, bid him learn of that Child, how to acquit himself of his Duty, and embracing the Boy sent him home with a Purse of an hundred Pieces of Gold, as a Token of his Liberality.

The Sultaness *Scheherazade* having finished her Story, and finding these Amusements were agreeable to the Sultan of the *Indies*, promised the next Morning to tell him another; which she began as usual, in these Words.

The Story of the Enchanted Horse.

SIR, said she, your Majesty knows, that on the *Navrouz*, that is to say, *The new Day*, which is the first of the Year and Spring, an ancient and solemn Feast is observed throughout all *Persia*, which has been continu'd from the Time of Idolatry to the Introduction of our Prophet's holy Religion, which as pure and true as it is, has not been able to abolish that Heathenish Custom, and the Superstitious Ceremonies which are not only observed in the great Cities, but celebrated with extraordinary Rejoycings in every little Village and Hamlet.

But of all Places these Rejoycings are the most extraordinary at the Court; for the Variety of new surprizing Sights, insomuch that Strangers are invited from the most remote Parts of the World, by the King's Rewards and

Liberality towards those who are the most excellent in their Inventions. In short, nothing in the World can come nigh them in Magnificence.

One of these Feast Days, after the most ingenious Artisans had repaired to *Schiraz*, where the Court then resided, and had entertained the King, and all the Court with their Sights, and had been bountifully and liberally rewarded, according to their Merit, when the Assembly was just breaking up, an *Indian* appeared at the Foot of the Throne with an Artificial Horse richly bridled and saddled, and so well made, that at first Sight, he looked like a live Horse.

The *Indian* prostrated himself before the Throne, and then pointing to the Horse, said to the King, Tho', Sir, I present my self the last before your Majesty, yet I can assure you, that nothing that has been shewn to Day, is so wonderful as this Horse, on which I beg your Majesty would be pleased to cast your Eyes. I see nothing more in the Horse, said the King, but the natural Resemblance the Workman has given him, and what another Workman may do as well, or better.

Sir, reply'd the *Indian*, it is not his outward Form and Make, that I intend your Majesty should look upon as wonderful, but the Use I know how to make of him, and what any other Person, when I have communicated the Secret to him, may do as well. When ever I mount him, be it where it will, I can transport my self through the Air, to the most distant Part of the World, in a very short Time. This, Sir, is the Wonder of my Horse; a Wonder which no Body ever heard speak of, and which I offer to shew your Majesty if you command me.

The King of *Persia*, who was fond of every Thing that was curious, and after the many wonderful Things he had seen and desired to see, had never seen, or heard of any Thing like what the *Indian* proposed, told him, that nothing but the Experience of the Truth of what he told, should convince him, and that withal, he was ready to see him perform what he promised.

The *Indian* presently put his Foot into the Stirrup, and mounted his Horse with a great deal of Activity; and when he had got the other Foot into the Stirrup, and had fix'd himself in the Saddle, he asked the King of *Persia*, where they pleased to send him.

About

About three Leagues from *Schiraz* there was an high Mountain, which affords a pleasant Prospect to the large Square which was before the Palace, where the King and his Court then were. Go to that Mountain, said the King, pointing to the Hill, 'tis far enough to judge of the Haste thou canst make: But because it is not possible for the Eye to follow thee so far, for a certain Sign, that thou hast been there, I expect that thou shouldest bring me a Branch of a Palm Tree, that grows at the Bottom of the Hill.

The King of *Persia* had no sooner declared his Will, but the *Indian* turned a Peg, which was in the Hollow of the Horse's Neck, just by the Saddle, and in an Instant the Horse flew into the Air, to the Admiration of the King, and all the Spectators, and was presently got so high, that those who had the strongest Sight, could not discern him, and within less than a Quarter of an Hour, they saw him come again with the Palm Branch in his Hand; but before he came quite down he took two or three Turns in the Air, with the Applauses and Acclamations of all the People, then descended upon the same Spot of Ground without receiving the least shock from the Horse to disorder him. Afterwards he dismounted, and going unto the Throne, prostrated himself, and laid the Branch of the Palm Tree at the King's Feet.

The King of *Persia*, who was an Eye Witness, with no less Admiration than Astonishment of this unheard-of Wonder of the *Indian*, conceived a great Desire to have the Horse: And as he perswaded himself, that he should not find it a difficult Matter to treat with the *Indian* about him, for whatever Sum of Money he should value him at; he began to look upon him as the most valuable Thing in his Treasury. To judge of thy Horse by the outward Appearance, said he to his *Indian*, I did not think him worth my Consideration, till thou shewedst me his Merit. I am obliged to thee for undeceiving me, and to shew thee how much I esteem him, I'll buy him of thee, if he is to be sold.

Sir, reply'd the *Indian*, I never doubted, but that your Majesty, who has the Character of the most judicious Prince on Earth, would set a just Value on my Work, as soon as I had shewn him you, how worthy he was of your Attention. I also foresaw, that you would not only praise

and commend him, but would desire to have him. For my Part, Sir, tho' I know the true Value of him, and that my being Master of him, will render my Name immortal in the World, yet I am not so fond of it, but can deprive my self of it to gratify that noble Passion of your Majesty: But in making this Declaration, I have another Thing to offer, without which I cannot resolve to part with him, and perhaps you may not approve of it.

Your Majesty will not be displeased, continued the *Indian*, if I tell you that I did not buy this Horse, but obtained him of the Maker, by giving him at the same Time my only Daughter in Marriage, and promising at the same Time never to sell him; but if I parted with him, to exchange him for something that I should like.

The *Indian* would have gone on, but at the Word Exchange, the King of *Persia* interrupted him. I am willing, said he, to give thee what thou wilt ask in Exchange. Thou knowest that my Kingdom is large, and contains a great many large, rich and populous Cities; I give you the Choice of which you like best, and will grant thee the Sovereignty for ever.

This Exchange seemed Royal and Noble to the whole Court, but was much below what the *Indian* proposed to himself, who had raised his Thoughts much higher. I am infinitely obliged to your Majesty for the Offer you make me, answered he, and cannot thank you enough for your Generosity; yet I must beg of you not to be angry with me, if I take the Boldness to tell you, that I cannot let you have my Horse, but by receiving the Hand of the Princess your Daughter as my Wife; for this is the only Price I can sell my Horse at.

The Courtiers about the King of *Persia* could not forbear laughing out aloud at this extravagant Demand of the *Indian*; but the Prince *Firouz Schah*, the King's eldest Son, and presumptive Heir to the Crown, could not hear it without Indignation. The King, was quite the reverse, and thought he might very well sacrifice the Princess of *Persia* to the *Indian*, to satisfy his Curiosity, and remained pensive for some Time, considering what he should do,

When

When the Prince *Firouz Schah*, who saw his Father hesitated on what Answer he should make, began to fear lest he should comply with the *Indian's* Demand, and looked upon it as not only injurious to the Royal Dignity and his Sister, but also to himself; therefore to prevent his Father, he said, Sir, I hope your Majesty will forgive me, for daring to ask you, if it is possible, that your Majesty should consider a Moment what Denial to give so insolent a Fellow, and scandalous Jugler; and that you should give him Room to flatter himself a Moment, with being allied to one of the most powerful Monarchs in the World? I beg of you to have Regard to your self, and the Noble Blood of our Ancestors.

Son, reply'd the King of *Persia*, I very much approve of your Remonstrance, and am very sensible of your Zeal for preserving the Lustre of our noble Birth; but you do not consider enough of the Excellence of this Horse, nor that the *Indian*, if I would refuse him, may make the Proffer some where else, where this nice Point of Honour may be waved. I shall be in the utmost Despair, if another Prince should boast of having exceeded me in Generosity, and deprived me of the Glory of possessing a Horse which I esteem as the most singular, and wonderful Thing in the World. I will not say, I will consent to grant him what he asketh; perhaps he may not insist upon his exorbitant Demand, and I may make another Agreement with him; but before I strike the Bargain with him; I should be glad, that you would examine the Horse, and that you would try him your self, and give me your Opinion of him.

As it is natural for us to flatter our selves in what we desire, the *Indian* fancied by what he heard the King of *Persia* say, he was not intirely averse to his Alliance, by taking the Horse at his Price; and that the Prince, who seemed to be against it, might become more favourable, and not oppose the Desire the King seemed to have; therefore he consented to it with a great deal of Pleasure, and ran before the Prince, to help him to mount, and to shew him how to guide and manage him.

The Prince mounted the Horse with a wonderful Address, without the *Indian* assisting him, and no sooner had he got his Feet in both Stirrups, but, without staying for

the *Indian's* Advice, he turned the Peg he had seen him use before him, and that in an Instant mounted into the Air, as quick as an Arrow shot out of a Bow, and in a few Moments the King, Court, and the numerous Assembly, lost Sight of him, neither Horse, nor Prince were to be seen; and the King of *Persia* made vain Efforts to discern them; when the *Indian*, alarm'd at what had happened; prostrated himself before the Throne, and forced the King to look at him, and give Attention to what he said: Sir, said he, your Majesty, your self, saw, that the Prince was so hasty, that he would not permit me to give him the necessary Instructions to govern my Horse. He was too willing to shew his Address, but knows not the way, which I was going to shew him, how to turn the Horse about, and bring him back again; therefore, Sir, the Favour I ask of your Majesty is, not to make me accountable for what Accidents may befall him; you are too just to impute to me any Misfortune that may attend him.

This Discourse of the *Indian* very much surprized and afflicted the King of *Persia*, who comprehended the danger his Son was in to be inevitable, if, as the *Indian* said, there was another Secret to bring him back again, that was different from that, which carried him away, and asked, in a Passion, why he did not call him back the Moment he went.

Sir, answered the *Indian*, your Majesty saw as well as I, with what swiftness the Horse and Prince flew away; the Surprize I was, and still am in, deprived me of the use of my Speech, and if I could have spoke, he was got too far to hear me if I had; he knew not the Secret to bring him back, which through his Impatience he would not stay to learn: But Sir, added he, there's room to hope, that the Prince, when he finds himself at a Loss, will perceive another Peg behind, and as soon as he touches that, the Horse will light on the Ground, and he may turn him which way he will.

Notwithstanding all these Arguments of the *Indian*, which were not altogether groundless, the King of *Persia* was terribly frighted at the evident Danger his Son was in. I suppose, replied he, 'tis very uncertain, whether my Son perceives the other Peg, and makes a right use of it; may not the Horse, instead of lighting on the Ground, fall

fall upon some Rock, from whence he may tumble into the Sea?

Sir, reply'd the *Indian*, I can free your Majesty from this Apprehension, in assuring you, that the Horse crosses Seas without ever falling, and always carries his Rider wherever he has a Mind to go; and your Majesty may assure your self, that if the Prince does but find out the other Peg, I tell you the Horse will carry him where he pleases to go; and is it to be thought, that he will go any where but where he is well known, and will be well received?

Be it as it will, reply'd the King of *Persia*, as I cannot depend upon the Assurance thou givest me, thy Head shall answer for my Son's Life, if he does not return safe and sound in three Days Time, or that I can certainly hear that he is alive. Then he ordered his Officers to secure his Person, and keep him close Prisoner; after which he retired to his Palace, extremely grieved, that the Feast of the *Nourouz* should afford him and his Court so much Sorrow.

In the mean Time, the Prince *Firouz Schah* was carried thro' the Air with a prodigious Swiftness, as I said before, and in less than an Hour's time he was got so high, that he could not distinguish any Thing on the Earth; but Mountains and Plains seemed confounded together. 'Twas then he began to think of returning from whence he came, and thought to do it by turning the same Peg the contrary Way, and pulling the Bridle at the same Time. But when he found that the Horse still rose with the same Swiftness, his Astonishment was extremely great. He turned the Peg several times one way and the other, but all in vain. 'Twas then he grew sensible of his Fault, in not taking the necessary Precautions to guide the Horse, before he mounted him. He immediately apprehended the great danger he was in, but the quickness of that Apprehension did not deprive him in the least of his Reason: He examined the Horse from Head to Tail, with great Attention, and perceived another Peg smaller than the other, behind the Horse's right Ear; he turned that Peg, and presently perceived that he descended in the same oblique Manner, as he mounted, but not so swift.

Night had overshadowed that part of the Earth, almost half an Hour, over which the Prince then was, when he found out the small Peg, and as the Horse descended, he by degrees lost Sight of the Sun, till he found it quite dark, insomuch, that instead of chusing what Place he would go to, he was forced to let the Bridle lie upon the Horse's Neck, and wait patiently, till he lighted, tho' not without the Dread, lest it should be in a Desert, River, or the Sea.

At last the Horse stopp'd, tho' it was first Midnight, and the Prince *Firouz Schah* dismounted, very faint and hungry, having eat nothing, since the Morning when he came out of the Palace, with his Father and the Court. The first Thing he had to do in this Darkeness of the Night, was to endeavour to know, where he was, when he found himself to be on the Leads of a magnificent Palace, surrounded with a Baustrade of white Marble Breast high, and groping about, found a pair of Stairs which led down into the Palace, and the Door of the Leads half open.

None but Prince *Firouz Schah* would have ventured to go down those Stairs, so dark as it was; in regard to the Danger he exposed himself to, from Friends or Foes; but no Consideration could stop him. I do not come, said he to himself, to do any Body any harm, and certainly, whoever meets, or sees me first, will not attempt any Thing against my Life, before they hear what I have to say for my self. After this Reflection he opened the Door wider, without making any Noise, and went softly down the Stairs, that he might not awake any Body; and when he came to the Foot of that Stair-Case, he found the Door of a great Hall, that had a Light in it, open.

The Prince stopped at the Door, and listning, heard no other Noise than the Snoring of some People, who were asleep. He advanced a little into the Room, and by the light of a Lanthorn saw, that those Persons whom he heard Snore, were black Eunuchs, with naked Sabres laid by them, which was enough to inform him, that this was the Guard Chamber of some Queen or Princess, which latter it proved to be.

The next Room to this he judged to be that, wherein the Princess lay, by the light he saw, which appeared, the Door being open, thro' a thin Silk Curtain, which drew before

before the Door-Stead, whither Prince *Firouz Schah* advanced on Tiptoe, without waking the Eunuchs. He put by the Curtain, and went in, and without staying to observe the Magnificence of the Chamber, which was what he did not much regard; he gave his Attention to something of greater Importance: He saw a great many in Bed, and among them one laid upon a Sofa. The Princess's Women lay in the first, and she her self in the last.

This Distinction was enough to direct the Prince in his Choice: he crept softly to the Bed without waking either the Princess or her Women, and beheld a Beauty so extraordinary and surprizing, that he was charmed and inflamed with Love, at the first Sight. O Heavens! said he to himself, my Fate hath brought me hither to deprive me of my Liberty, which hitherto I have always preserved. How can I avoid a certain Slavery, when those Eyes shall open? Since without doubt, they enliven and give a Lustre to this Stock of Charms. I must quickly resolve: And yet I cannot stir, without being my own Murderer; for Fate has ordered it so.

After these Reflections, and the Prince had gazed on the Princess's Beauty, and examined the Condition of his Heart, he fell on his Knees, and taking hold of the Princess's Shift Sleeves, pulled gently towards him an Arm as white as Snow; upon which the Princess opened her Eyes, and seeing an handsome well-shaped Man on his Knees, she was in a great Surprise, and remained sometime confounded; but yet seem'd to shew no Sign of Fear.

The Prince made use of this Favourable Moment, bow'd his Head down to the Ground and then said, Most beautiful Princess, by the most extraordinary and wonderful Adventure imaginable, you see here at your Feet a suppliant Prince, the Son of the King of *Persia*, who was yesterday Morning with his Father in his Court, at the Celebration of a solemn Feast, and am in a strange Country in Danger of my Life, if you have not the Goodness and Generosity to give me your Assistance and Protection, which I implore, most adorable Princess, with the Confidence, that you will not refuse it me, and have just Ground to perswade my self, that so much Beauty and Majesty, cannot entertain the least Inhumanity.

This Princess, to whom *Firouz Schah* so happily addressed himself, was the Princess of *Bengal*, and the King's eldest Daughter, for whom he had built this Palace, a small Distance from his Capital, whither she went often for Air. After she had heard the Prince with all the Candor he could desire, she replied, Prince, you may assure your self, that you are not in a barbarous Country since the same Hospitality, Humanity, and Politeness, is to be met with in the Kingdom of *Bengal* as in that of *Persia*; I shall not only grant you the Protection you ask, and you will not only have it in my Palace, but throughout the whole Kingdom; you may believe me, and depend upon what I say.

The Prince of *Persia* would have thanked the Princess of *Bengal* for her obliging Civility, and the Favour she did him, and had already bowed down his Head to return the Compliment, but she would not give him leave to speak: Notwithstanding I desire, said she, to know, by what Miracle you have come hither from the Capital of *Persia* in so short a Time, and by what Incantment you have been able to penetrate so far, as to come to my Apartment, and to have deceived the Vigilance of my Guards; yet looking upon you as a Guest, who is welcome, and may want some Refreshment, I'll wave my Curiosity, and give Orders to my Women to regale and shew you an Apartment, that you may rest your self after the Fatigue, and be better able to satisfy my Curiosity, as well as I to hear your Story.

The Princess's Women, who waked at the first Words, which the Prince addressed to the Princess, were in the utmost Surprise, to see a Man at the Princess's Bolster, but could not conceive, how he got thither, without waking them or the Eunuchs: However, as they comprehended the Princess's Intentions, they dressed themselves presently, and were ready to obey her Commands, as soon as she gave them. They each took a Wax Candle, of which there were great Numbers lighted up in the Room; and after the Prince had taken his Leave very respectfully, they went before him, and conducted him into a fine Chamber, where, while some were preparing the Bed, others went down into the Kitchen to the Cooks; for all it was so unseasonable an Hour, they did
not

not make the Prince *Firouz Sebah* wait long, but brought him presently all Sorts of Meat, and when he had eat as much, as he had a mind, and they had served him with whatever he had any desire for, they left him to taste the Sweet of Repose.

In the mean Time the Princess of *Bengal* was so struck with the Charms, Wit, Politeness, and other fine Qualities, which she discovered in that short Conversation with the Prince, that she could not sleep; but when her Women came into her Room, to go to Bed, asked them, if they had taken Care of him, and if he wanted any Thing; and at last, what they thought of him?

The Women, after they had satisfied her as to the first Articles, answered as to the last; We don't know what you may think of him, but for our Parts, we think, you would be very happy, if the King your Father would marry you to him; for there is not a Prince in all the Kingdom of *Bengal*, that is to be compared to him; nor can we hear, that any of the Neighbouring Princes are worthy of you.

This flattering Discourse was in no wise displeasing to the Princess of *Bengal*, who as she had no mind to declare her Sentiments to them, imposed Silence upon them, telling them they were mistaken, bidding them go to Bed, and let her sleep.

The next Day, as soon as the Princess was up, she sat down to her Toilet, and took more Pains in dressing, and adjusting her self in the Glass, than ever she had done in her Life. She never had tryed her Women's Patience so much before, by making them do and undo the same Thing several Times: Certainly, said she to her self, if the Prince, as I perceive, was taken with me in my Disabillee, he will be charmed with me when I am dressed. She adorned her Head, Neck, Arms, and Waste with the finest and largest Diamonds she had: The Habit she made use of was one of the richest Stuffs of the *Indies*, which was of a most beautiful Colour, and made only for Kings, Princes, and Princesses. After she had consulted her Glass a long Time, and asked her Women one after another, if nothing was wanting to her Attire? she sent to know if the Prince of *Persia* was awake; and as she never disputed, but that if he was up and dressed, he would
ask

ask Leave to go and pay his Respects to her, She charged the Messenger, for some particular Reason, she had, to tell him, she would make him the Visit.

The Prince of *Persia* who had recovered by that Night's Rest, the Fatigue he had undergone the Day before, had just dressed himself, when he received the Princess of *Bengal's* Compliment, and without giving the Lady, who brought the Message, Leave to make an End of what she had to say, asked her, if it was proper for him then to go and pay his Respects; and when the Lady had acquitted herself of her Errand, he reply'd, as the Princess thinks fit, I am solely at her Pleasure.

As soon as the Princess of *Bengal* understood, that the Prince of *Persia* waited for her, she immediately went to pay him a Visit. After mutual Compliments on both Sides, the Prince, in asking Pardon for having surprized and waked the Princess out of a deep Sleep; and the Princess by asking after his Health, and how he rested, the Princess sat down on a *Sofa*, as did also the Prince, tho' at some Distance, out of Respect.

Then the Princess assuming the Discourse, said, I would have received you, Prince, in the Chamber, in which you found me in Bed last Night; but as the chief of my Eunuchs has the Liberty of coming into it, and never comes farther without my Leave; thro' my Impatience to hear the surprizing Adventure, which procures me the Happiness of seeing you, I chose to come hither, that we may not be interrupted; therefore I beg of you to give me that Satisfaction, which will highly oblige me.

Prince *Frouz Schah* to gratify the Princess of *Bengal* began his Discourse with the solemn and annual Feast of the *Nourouz*, relating all the Sights worthy of her Curiosity, which were shewn before the Court of *Persia*, and the whole Town of *Schiraz*; afterwards he came to the Incharmed Horse, the Description of which, with the Account of the Wonders, which the *Indian* performed on him before so August an Assembly convinced the Princess, that nothing of that Kind, in the World, could be imagined more surprizing. You may well think, charming Princess, continued the Prince of *Persia*, that the King my Father, who values not what he gives for any Thing that is rare and curious, would be very desirous to purchase
such

such an Horse, as indeed he was. He asked the *Indian*, what he would have for him? who made him an extravagant Reply, telling him, that he never bought, but took him in Exchange for his only Daughter, and could not part with him but on the like Condition, which was to have his Consent to marry the Princess my Sister.

The Crow'd of Courtiers, who stood about the King my Father, hearing the Extravagance of this Proposal, all burst out a laughing, and for my Part, I conceived so great an Indignation, that I could not disguise it, and the more, because I saw that the King my Father was considering with himself, what Answer he should give him. In short, I believe he would have granted him what he asked, If I had not made a lively Representation how injurious it would be to his Honour; yet my Remonstrance could not bring him intirely to quit his Design of sacrificing the Princess, my Sister, to so despicable a Person. He fancied, he should bring me over to his Opinion, it once I could comprehend, as he imagined, the singular Worth of this Horse. With this View he would have me look at him, and mount him, and make a Tryal of him my self.

To humour my Father, I mounted the Horse, and as soon as I was got upon his Back, I put my Hand upon a Peg, as I had seen the *Indian* do before me, to make the Horse mount into the Air, never staying to take Instructions of the Owner. The Instant that I touched the Peg, the Horse mounted with me into the Air, as swift as an Arrow shot out of a Bow, and I was presently got such a Distance from the Earth, that I could not distinguish any Object. By the Swiftnefs of the Motion, I was for some Time unapprehensive of the Danger, to which I was exposed; but when I grew sensible of it, I endeavoured to turn the Peg the contrary Way, but the Experiment would not answer my Expectation, and still the Horse mounted with me, and carried me a greater Distance from the Earth. At last I perceived another Peg, which I turned, and then I grew sensible, that the Horse declined towards the Earth, and presently found my self surrounded with Darkness, that it was impossible for me to guide the Horse. In this Condition I laid the Bridle on his Neck, and trusted my self to the Will of God to dispose of my Fate.

Not

Not long after the Horse lighted, and I got off his Back, and examining whereabouts I might be, perceived myself on the Leads of this Palace, and found the Door of the Stair-Case half open. I came softly down the Stairs, and seeing a Door open by a small Light, put my Head into the Room, and saw some Eunuchs asleep, and a great Light in another Room; the Necessity I was in, notwithstanding the inevitable Danger I was threatned with, if the Eunuchs had waked, inspired me with Boldness, or rather Rashness, to cross that Room, to get to the other.

It's needless, Madam, added the Prince to tell you the rest, since you are not unacquainted with all that passed afterwards; only I am obliged, in Duty, to thank you for your Goodness and Generosity, and to beg of you, to let me know, how I may shew my Acknowledgment. According to the Law of Nations, I am already your Slave; and therefore cannot make you an Offer of my Person, but only of my Heart: But alas! Princess, what is it I say? my Heart is no longer my own, your Charms have forced it from me, but in such a Manner, as I will never ask for it again, but yield it up; therefore give me Leave to declare you Mistress both of my Heart and Person.

These last Words of the Prince *Firouz Schah's* were pronounced with such an Air and Tone, that the Princess of *Bengal* never doubted a Moment of the Effect she expected from her Charms; neither did she seem to resent the Precipitation of the Prince of *Persia's* Declaration, but only increased her Beauty by a graceful Blush, which completed her Conquest.

As soon as she had recovered herself, she replied, Prince, you have given me a sensible Pleasure, by telling me those surprizing wonderful Things: But on the other Hand, I can hardly forbear shuddering, when I think on the Height you was in the Air, and tho' I had the good Fortune to see you here safe and well, I was in Pain, till you came to that Part, where the *Indian* Horse alighted on my Palace Leads. I am glad, that Chance has given me the Preference to the whole World; and the Opportunity of letting you know, that Fortune could not have conducted you any where, where you could have been received more agreeably, and with greater Pleasure.

But

But Prince, continued she, I should be very angry with you, if I thought, that what you mentioned of being my Slave was serious, and it did not proceed from your Abundance of Civility, but from a sincerity of Sentiment; for by the Reception I gave you Yesterday, you might assure your self, you are here, as in the midst of the Court of *Persia*.

As to your Heart, added the Princess of *Bengal*, in a most sweet and obliging Manner, as I am persuaded, that you have not lived so long without disposing of it, and that you could not fail of making choice of a Princess of *Merit*; I should be very sorry to give you an Occasion to be guilty of an Infidelity.

The Prince *Firouz Schah* would have protested, that when he left *Persia*, he was Master of his own Heart, but at that Instant one of the Princess's Ladies, in waiting, came to tell her that Dinner was served up.

This Interruption delivered the Prince and Princess from an Explanation, which would have been equally embarrassing to both of them, and of which they stood in Need. The Princess of *Bengal* was fully convinced of the Prince of *Persia*'s Sincerity, and the Prince, tho' the Princess had not explained herself, judged nevertheless by some Words she let fall, and the favourable Manner she heard him, that he had no reason to complain.

As the Lady held the Door open, the Princess of *Bengal* said to the Prince of *Persia*, rising off her Seat, as he did also from his, I am not used to dine so early; but as I fancied you might have had but an indifferent Supper last Night, I ordered Dinner to be got ready sooner than ordinary. After this Compliment, she led him into a Magnificent Hall, where a Table was laid, and set off with great Plenty of Choice and excellent Viands; and as soon as they were set down, a great many beautiful Slaves of the Princess's, who were richly dressed, began a most charming and agreeable Concert of vocal and instrumental Musick.

This Concert was so sweet and delicate, that it did not in the least prevent, or interrupt the Prince and Princess's Conversation: All Dinner Time their sole Concern was to help and invite each other to eat: The Prince, for his Part, served the Princess with the Choicest of every Thing,

Thing, and strove to outdo her in Civility, both by Words and Actions, which she returned again with a great many Compliments : and in this reciprocal Commerce of obliging each other, Love made a greater Progress.

When they rose from Table; the Princess carried the Prince into a large and magnificent Closet, finely imbellished with Paintings in Blue and Gold; of a just Symmetry, and richly furnished; there they both sat down upon a Sofa, which afforded a most agreeable Prospect, into the Palace Garden, which Prince *Firouz Schah* admired for the vast Variety of Flowers, Shrubs and Trees, which were full as beautiful, but quite different, as those of *Persia*. Here taking the Opportunity of entring into a Conversation with the Princess, he said, I always believed, Madam, that no Part of the World but *Persia*, afforded such stately Palaces and beautiful Gardens; but now I see that other great Monarchs knew as well how to build; and if there is a Difference in the Manner of Building, there is none in the Grandeur and Magnificence.

Prince. reply'd the Princess of *Bengal*, as I have no Idea of the Palaces of *Persia*, I cannot judge of the Comparison you have made of mine, to tell you my Opinion of it. But as sincere as you seem to be, I can hardly think it just, but believe it a Compliment; however, I will not despise my Palace before you; you discern too well, and have too good a Taste to want sound Judgment; but I assure you, I think it very indifferent, when I compare it with my Father's, which far exceeds it for Grandeur, Beauty, and Richness: You shall tell me, your self, what you think of it, when you have seen it; for since a Chance has brought you so nigh to the Capital of this Kingdom, I don't doubt but you will see it, and make my Father a Visit, that he may pay you all the Honour due to a Prince of your Rank and Merit.

The Princess flattered herself, that by exciting in the Prince of *Persia*, a Curiosity to see the Palace of *Bengal*, and to visit her Father, the King seeing him so handsome, wise, and accomplished a Prince, might, perhaps, take it in his Head, to propose an Alliance with him, by offering her as a Wife. And as she was very well perswaded, she was not indifferent to the Prince, and that he would be pleased with the Proposal, she hoped to attain the utmost

most of her Wishes, and preserve all the Decorum agreeable to a Princess, who would appear to have all the Regard to the Will of her King and Father : But the Prince of *Persia* did not return her an Answer according to her Desire.

Princess, reply'd the Prince, the Preference which you give the King of *Bengal's* Palace to your own, is enough for me to believe, it much exceeds it : But as to the Proposal of my going, and paying my Respects to the King your Father, I should not only do my self a Pleasure, but an Honour in doing it : But judge, Princess, your self, would you advise me to present my self before so great a Monarch, at Adventure without Attendance, and a Train agreeable to my Rank ?

Prince, reply'd the Princess, do not let that give you any Pain ; if you will but go, you shall want no Money to have what Train and Attendance you please : I will furnish you ; and we have Traders here of all Nations in great Numbers, and you may make choice of as many as you please, to form your Household.

Prince *iironz Schah* penetrated into the Princess of *Bengal's* Intention, and this sensible Mark she gave him of her Love, still augmented his Passion, which notwithstanding its Violence, made him not forget his Duty ; but, without any Hesitation, he reply'd, Princess, I should most willingly accept of the Obliging Offer you make me, for which I cannot enough shew my Acknowledgment, if the Uneasiness my Father must be in on Account of my Absence did not prevent me. I should be unworthy of the Bounty and Tenderneſs, he has always had for me, if I should not return soon to calm his Fears. I know his Temper so well, that while I have the Happiness of injoying the Conversation of so lovely a Princess, I am perswaded, that he is plunged into the deepest Grief, and has lost all Hopes of seeing me again. I hope you will do me the Justice, as to believe, that I cannot, without Ingratitude, and being guilty of a Crime, dispence with going to restore that Life to him, which a too long deferred Return, may have endangered.

After this, Princess, continued the Prince of *Persia*, if you will permit me, and think me worthy to aspire to the Happiness of becoming your Spouse ; as the King my Father, has always declared, that he never would constrain me

me in my Choice, I should find it no difficult Matter to get Leave to return, not as a Stranger, but as a Prince, to contract an Alliance by our Marriage; and I am perswaded, that he will be overjoyed, when I shall tell him, with what Generosity you received me, tho' a Stranger.

The Princess of *Bengal* was too reasonable, after what the Prince of *Persia* had said, to insist any longer in persuading him to pay a Visit to the King of *Bengal*, or to ask any Thing of him contrary to his Duty and Honour, but was very much alarm'd to find, that he thought of so sudden a Departure, fearing, that if he took his Leave of her so soon, he would not remember his Promise, but forget, that he ever had seen her: But to put it off a little. she said to him: Prince, my Intention of proposing a Visit to my Father, was not to oppose so just an Excuse, as that you give me, and which I did not foresee. I should have rendered my self an Accomplice of the Crime, had I thought of it: But I cannot approve of your thinking to go so soon as you propose: At least, grant me the Favour I ask, of a little longer Acquaintance; and since I had the Happiness to have you alight in the Kingdom of *Bengal*, rather than in the midst of a Desert, or on the Top of some steep craggy Rock, from which it would have been impossible for you to descend, I desire you will make a little longer Abode, that you may be able to give a better Account, at the Court of *Persia*, of what you have seen here.

The sole End the Princess of *Bengal* had in this Discourse was, that the Prince of *Persia*, by a longer stay, might become insensibly more passionately taken with her Charms, hoping thereby, that his ardent Desire of returning would diminish, and then he might be brought to appear in publick, and pay a Visit to the King of *Bengal*. The Prince of *Persia* could not well refuse her the Favour she asked, after the kind Reception she had given him; but was so complaisant, as to descend to her, whose only Thoughts then were, how to render his Abode agreeable by all the Diversions she could imagine.

Nothing went forwards for some Days, but Feasts and Balls, and Concerts of Musick, which were always set off with magnificent Collations. On other Days they went a hunting Deer in the Palace Park, which abounded with all Sorts, both Stags, Hinds, and Fallow Deer. And after

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the Chase, the Prince and Princess met in a convenient Place in the Park, where a Carpet was spread, and Cushions laid for them, to sit the more easy on, and rest themselves, after the Violence of that Exercise. There they talk'd generally of indifferent Matters; but the Princess, for the most Part, would intrude something about the Grandeur, Power, Riches, and Government of *Persia*; that from Prince *Firouz Schah's* Discourse, she might have an Opportunity to talk of the Kingdom of *Bengal*, and ingage him to resolve to make a longer stay there; but was baulked in her Expectations.

In short, the Prince of *Persia*, without making the least Exaggerations, gave so advantageous an Account of the Largeness of the Kingdom of *Persia*, its Magnificence and Riches, its Military Force, its commerce by Sea and Land, to the most remote Parts of the World; the vast Number of large and populous Cities it contain'd; such as the King made his Residence, where he had Palaces ready furnished to receive him at all Seasons of the Year, so that at his Choice, he could always enjoy a perpetual Spring; that before he had done, the Princess found the Kingdom of *Bengal* to be very much inferior to that of *Persia*, in a great many Instances: When he had finished his Relation, he begged of her, to entertain him with a Description of *Bengal*, which after a great deal of Intreaty from the Prince, she at last comply'd with.

The Princess gave Prince *Firouz Schah* that Satisfaction; but by lessening a great many Advantages the Kingdom of *Bengal* had over that of *Persia*, she let him know the Disposition she was in, to accompany him, that he believed, she would consent at the first Proposition he should make; but he thought it would not be proper then, till he had shewed her so much Complaisance, as to stay longer with her, but resolved to make it, in Case she would keep him from returning to his Father, as he was in Duty bound to do.

Two whole Months the Prince *Firouz Schah* abandoned himself intirely to the Will of the Princess of *Bengal*, who neglected nothing to divert him. But after that Time, he declared seriously, he could not stay any longer, and begged of her, to give him Leave to return to his Father;

ther, repeating again the Promise he had made her, to return soon, in an Equipage worthy of her, and himself, and in Form to demand her in Marriage of the King of *Bengal*.

And Princess, replied the Prince of *Persia*, that you may not suspect the Truth of what I say; and that by my asking this Leave, you may not rank me among those false Lovers, who forget the Object of their Loves, as soon as they are absent from them; but to shew, that my Passion is real and not feigned, and that my Life cannot be agreeable to me, when absent from so lovely a Princess, I should be so bold, if I was not afraid you would be angry to ask the Favour of taking you along with me.

As the Prince *Firouz Schah* saw, that the Princess blush'd at these last Words, and that without any Mark of Anger, she was determin'd what to do: He proceeded, and said, Princess, as for the King my Father's Consent, and the Reception he will give you, he will receive you with Pleasure into his Alliance; and as for the King of *Bengal*, after all the Love and tender Regard he has always express'd for you, he must be the Reverse of what you have described him, an Enemy to your Repose and Happiness, if he should not receive the Ambassy friendly, which my Father will send to him for his Approbation of our Marriage.

The Princess of *Bengal* return'd no Answer to this Discourse of the Prince of *Persia*; but her Silence, and the casting down of her Eyes, were sufficient to inform him, that she had no Reluctance, but consented: The only Difficulty she had to raise was, that the Prince knew not well enough, how to govern the Horse, which the Prince soon removed, by assuring her, that after the Experience he had had, he desired the *Indian* himself to manage him better; upon which they had nothing to do, but concert Measures so secretly, that no Body belonging to the Palace, should have the least Suspicion of their Design.

The next Morning a little before Day Break, when all the Palace were asleep, they went upon the Leads of the Palace; the Prince turned the Horse towards *Persia*, and placed him, where the Princess could easily get up behind him; which he had no sooner done, and was well settled with her Arms about his Waste, for her better Security, but he turned the Peg, and the Horse mounted in the Air, and

and in two Hours Time, the Prince discovered the Capital of *Persia*.

He would not light at the Palace, from whence he set out, nor in the Sultan's Palace, but directed his Course towards a Palace a little Distance from the Town. He led the Princess into a fine Apartment, where he told her, that to do her all the Honour, that was due to her, he would immediately inform his Father of their Arrival. At the same Time he ordered the Keeper of the Palace, who was then present, to pay all imaginable Respect to the Princess, and provide her whatever she had Occasion for.

After the Prince had taken his Leave of the Princess, he order'd an Horse to be saddled presently, which he mounted, after he had charged the Keeper, who attended him still, to carry the Princess Something for Breakfast, and then set forwards for the Palace. As he passed through the Streets, he was received with Acclamations of the People, who were overjoyed to see him again. The Sultan, his Father, was giving Audience to his People, in the midst of his Council, who, as well as the whole Court, had been all in Mourning, ever since he had been absent. The Sultan received, and embracing him with Tears of Joy, asked him, What was become of the *Indian's* Horse?

This Question gave the Prince an Opportunity to tell him the Embarrassment and Danger he was in, when the Horse had mounted into the Air with him, and how he arrived at last at the Princess of *Bengal's* Palace, the kind Reception he met with there; that the Motive which obliged him to stay so long, was his Complaisance, and to persuade her (after promising her Marriage) to come with him into *Persia*. But Sir, added the Prince, I have not only promised that Princess Marriage, but assured her of your Consent, and brought her on the *Indian's* Horse to a Palace, where your Majesty often goes for your Pleasure, and have left her there, till I could return, and assure her, that my Promise was not in vain.

After these Words the Prince prostrated himself before the Sultan, who raised him up, embraced him a second Time, and said unto him, Son, I not only consent to your Marriage with the Princess of *Bengal*, but will go and meet her my self, and thank her in particular for the Obligation

gation I have to her, and will bring her to my Palace, and celebrate your Nuptials this Day.

Then the Sultan gave Orders for his Court to go out of Mourning, and make Preparation for the Prince's Entry, and to fetch the *Indian* out of Prison. When the *Indian* was brought before the Sultan, he said to him, I secured thy Person, that thy Life, tho' not a sufficient Victim to my Rage and Grief, might answer for that of the Prince my Son, whom, Thanks to God, I have found again. Go take thy Horse, and never let me see thy Face more.

As the *Indian* had learned of those who fetch'd him out of Prison, that the Prince *Firouz Schah* was returned, and had brought a Princess behind him on his Horse, and was also informed of the Place where he had left her, and that the Sultan was making Preparations to go and bring her to his Palace; as soon as he got out of the Sultan's Presence, he bethought himself of being beforehand with him and the Prince, and without losing any Time went directly to the Palace, and addressing himself to the Keeper, told him, that he came from the Sultan and Prince of *Persia*, to fetch the Princess of *Bengal*, and to carry her behind him on his Horse to them, telling him at the same time, that they and the whole Court and City of *Schiraz* waited for that wonderful Sight.

The Keeper, who knew the *Indian*, and how that the Sultan had imprison'd him, gave the more Credit to what he said, because he saw that he was at Liberty, and presented him to the Princess of *Bengal*, who no sooner understood, that he came from the Prince of *Persia*, but she consented, as she thought, to what that Prince desired of her.

The *Indian* overjoy'd at his Success, and the Ease, with which he had accomplish'd his Villany, mounted his Horse, took the Princess behind him with the Assistance of the Keeper, turned the Peg, and presently the Horse mounted into the Air with him and the Princess.

At the same Time the Sultan of *Persia*, followed by his Court, was on the Road from his own Palace, to the Palace where the Princess of *Bengal* was left, and the Prince of *Persia* was advanced before, to prepare the Princess of *Bengal* to receive him, when the *Indian* to brave them, and revenge himself for the ill Treatment he had, as he pretended, pass'd over their Heads with his Prize.

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When the Sultan of *Persia* saw the Ravisher, he stopt; his Surprize and Affliction was much the more sensible, because it was not in his Power to make him repent of so high and injurious an Affront: He loaded him with a thousand Imprecations, as also did all the Courtiers, who were Witnesses of so signal a piece of Insolence and unparallel'd Villany.

The *Indian* little moved with their Curses, which just reach'd his Ears, continued on his Way, while the Sultan extremely mortify'd at so great an Injury, and to find he could not punish the Author, returned back to his Palace.

But all this time how violent was Prince *Firouz Schah's* Grief, to see the *Indian* carry away the Princess of *Bengal*, whom he loved so passionately, that he could not live without her! At the first Sight of an Object so little expected, he was quite Thunder-struck, and before he could deliberate with himself, whether he should let fly all the Injuries his Rage could invent against the *Indian*, or bewail the deplorable Fate of the Princess, or ask her Pardon for not taking better Precautions to preserve her, who had trusted her self so much to his Care, as was sufficient to shew her Love, the Horse was got out of sight. He could not well resolve what to do, whether he should return to the Sultan's Palace, and shut himself up in an Apartment, to give himself entirely up to his Affliction, without attempting to pursue the Ravisher, to deliver the Princess, and punish him as he deserved. But his Generosity, Love and Courage would not permit him long to entertain such a Thought; therefore he continued on his Way to the Palace where he left his Princess.

When he came there, the Keeper sensible of the Effect of his Credulity, by which he was deceived by the *Indian*, threw himself at his Feet with Tears in his Eyes, and accused himself of the Crime, which he thought he had committed, and condemned himself to die by his Hand. When the Prince said to him, Rise up; I don't impute the Loss of my Princess to thee, but to my own Simplicity. But not to lose Time, fetch me a Dervise's Habit, and take care you don't mention or give the least Hint that it is for me

Not far from this Palace there stood a Convent of Dervises, the *Schei h* or Superior of which was the Palace-keepers

keeper's particular Friend. According to the Prince's Order's he went to this *Scheikh*, and telling him a Story, that a considerable Officer at Court, and a Man of Worth, to whom he had been very much obliged, and was willing to serve, to weather the Sultan's Rage, he easily got a compleat Dervise's Habit, and carried it to the Prince *Firouz Schah*. The Prince immediately pull'd off his own Cloaths, and put it on, and being so disguised and provided for his Enterprize, with a Box of Jewels, which he brought as a present to the Princess, he left the Palace in the Evening, uncertain which way to go, but resolved not to return, till he had found out his Princess again, and could bring her along with him.

But to return to the *Indian*: He govern'd his Horse so well that Day, that he arrived pretty early in a Wood, near the Capital of the Kingdom of *Chaschmire*, where he was hungry himself, and judged, that the Princess might be the same; he lighted in that Wood in an open Part of it on a Grass-Plat by a Brook Side, and there left the Princess.

During the *Indian's* Absence, the Princess of *Bengal*, who knew, that she was in the Power of a base Ravisher, whose Violence she dreaded, thought of getting from him, and seeking out for some Sanctuary; but as she had eat scarce any thing in the Morning, she was so faint, that she could not execute what she designed, but was forced to abandon her Project, and to stay where she was, void of any other Assistance than her own Courage, and a firm Resolution rather to suffer Death than be unfaithful to the Prince of *Persia*. When the *Indian* returned, she eat with him, and by that Means recover'd her self, and could answer with Courage enough what he propos'd to her, after they had done. After a great many Threats, as she saw, that the *Indian* intended to use Violence, she got up to make a better Resistance, and by Cries and Shrieks drew a Company of Horsemen about them, which happened to be the Sultan of *Caschmire* and his Attendants, who, as they were returning from hunting, happily pass'd through that part of the Wood, and ran to the Princess of *Bengal's* Assistance at the Noise she made.

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The Sultan address'd himself to the *Indian*, and asked who he was, and what he had to do with the Lady? The *Indian* reply'd with a great deal of Impudence, that she was his Wife, and what had anyone to do to concern themselves between them?

The Princess, who neither knew the Rank nor Quality of the Person, who came so seasonably to her Relief, told the *Indian* that he was a Liar; and said to the Sultan, Sir, whoever you are, that Heaven has sent to my Assistance, have Compassion on a Princess, and give no Credit to that Impostor. Heaven forbid, that I should be the Wife of so vile and despicable an *Indian*, who is a wicked Magician, that hath taken me away from the Prince of *Persia*, to whom I was going to be married, and hath brought me hither on an enchanted Horse.

The Princess of *Bengal* had no Occasion to say any more, to persuade the Sultan of *Cashmire*, that what she told him was Truth. Her Beauty, Majestick Air, and her Fears spoke enough for her. The Sultan of *Cashmire* justly enraged at the Insolence and Villany of the *Indian*, ordered his Guards to surround him and cut off his Head; which Sentence was immediately executed.

The Princess, tho' thus delivered from the persecution of the *Indian*, yet fell into another no less afflicting to her. The Sultan, after he had ordered her an Horse, carried her along with him to his Palace, where he lodg'd her in the most magnificent Apartment next his own, and gave her a great Number of Women Slaves to attend her, and a Guard of Eunuchs. He led her himself into the Apartment he assigned her, where without giving her time to thank him for the great Obligation she had to him, he said to her, As I am assured, Princess, that you must want Rest; I will here take my Leave of you till to Morrow, when you will be better able to give me all the Circumstances of this strange Adventure; and then left her.

The Princess of *Bengal's* Joy was inexpressible, to find she was so soon freed from the Violence of a Man she could not look upon without Horror. She flattered herself, that the Sultan of *Cashmire* would be so generous, as to send her back to the Prince of *Persia*, when she had told him her Story, and asked that Favour of him, but was very much deceived in these Hopes; for the Sultan of *Cash-*

mire resolved to marry her the next Day, and for that End had ordered Rejoicings to be made by Day-break, by beating of Drums, and sounding Trumpets, and other Testimonials of Joy, which not only ecchoed thro' the Palace, but throughout the City.

The Princess of *Bengal* was awakened by those tumultuous Concerts, but could not tell what Cause to attribute them to; when the Sultan of *Caschmire*, who had given the Slaves orders to tell him, when the Princess was ready to receive a Visit, came to pay her one; and after he had informed himself of her Health, he acquainted her, that all those Rejoicings were to render their Nuptials more solemn, and at the same time, desired her to approve of them; which Discourse put her into so great a Consternation, that she swoon'd away.

The Women Slaves, who were present, ran to her Assistance, and the Sultan did all he could to bring her to herself again, tho' it was a long time before they could: But when she recovered, rather than be false and break the Promise she had made Prince *Firouz Schah* by consenting to marry the Sultan of *Caschmire*, who had proclaimed their Nuptials before he had asked her Consent, she resolved to feign Madness. To that End, she began to say the most extravagant Things before the Sultan, and even rose off her Seat to fly upon him, insomuch, that the Sultan was very much surprized and afflicted, that he had made such a Proposal so unseasonably.

When he found that her Frenzy rather increased than abated, he left her with her Women, charging them never to leave her alone, but to take a great Care of her. He sent often that day, to know how she did, but received no other Answer, but, that she was rather worse than better. In short, at Night she seemed much worse than she had been all Day, insomuch, that the Sultan of *Caschmire* was baulk'd in the Happiness he so much promised himself.

This Frenzy not only held the Princess of *Bengal* the next Day, but a great many more; so that the Sultan sent for all the Physicians belonging to his Court, to talk with them about her Disease, and to ask them, if they could cure her?

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The Physicians all agreed, that there were several Degrees of this Distemper, some curable, and others not, and told the Sultan, that they could not judge of the Princess of Bengal's, unless they saw her; upon which, the Sultan ordered the Eunuchs to introduce them into the Princess's Chamber.

The Princess, who foresaw what would happen, and fear'd, that if she let the Physicians come near her, to feel her Pulse, they would soon know, that she was in a good State of Health, and that her Madness was only feigned, flew into such a Rage and Passion, that she was ready to tear out their Eyes, who came near her; so none of them durst go nigh her.

Some of them, who pretended to be more Skilful than the rest, and boasted of judging of Diseases only by Sight, ordered her some Potions, which they could by no manner of Means get her to take, she well knowing, she could be sick or well at Pleasure.

When the Sultan of *Caschmire* saw, that his Physicians could not cure her, he called in the most noted and experienced of the City, who had all no better Success. Afterwards he sent for the most famous in the Kingdom, who met with no better Reception from the Princess, and what they ordered had no better Effect, than what was prescribed by the first. Afterwards he dispatched Expresses to the Courts of Neighbouring Princes, with the Case of the Princess's Distemper, to be distributed among the most famous Physicians, with a Promise to reward him, or them well, who should come and cure the Princess of Bengal.

A great many Physicians came from all Parts to the Capital of *Caschmire*, and undertook the Cure, but none of them could boast of better Success than their Fellows, since it was a Thing, that did not depend on their Skill, but on the Will of the Princess.

During this Interval, the Prince *Firouz Schah* disguised in the Habit of a *Dervise*, had travelled through a great many large Towns and Provinces, full of Grief; and having endured a great deal of Fatigue, not knowing which way to direct his Course next, to hear the News he sought, and made diligent Inquiry after, at every Place he came at; till at last passing through a great Town in *India*, he heard the People talk very much of a Princess of Bengal, who ran

mad on the Day of the Celebration of her Nuptials with the Sultan *Caschmire*. At the Name of the Princess of *Bengal*, and supposing that there was no other Princess of *Bengal*, than she, upon whose Account he undertook his Travels, he set forwards for the Kingdom of *Caschmire*, on this common Report ; and at his Arrival at the Capital City, he went and lodged at a *Khan*, where the same Day he was told the Story of the Princess of *Bengal*, and the unhappy Fate of the *Indian*, which he richly deserved : By all the Circumstances, the Prince knew, he could not be deceiv'd, but that she was the same Princess he had sought so long after.

The Prince of *Persia*, being informed of all these Particulars, provided himself against the next Day with a Physician's Habit, and having let his Beard grow, during his Travels, pass'd for a Physician ; and through the greatness of his Impatience to see his Princess, went to the Sultan's Palace, where presenting himself to the Chief of the Huissirs, he told him, that perhaps it might be looked upon as a very bold Undertaking in him to offer himself as a Physician to attempt the Cure of the Princess, after so many had failed in it ; but that he hoped some Specificks, which he had had great Experience and Success from, would effect the Cure. The Chief of the Huissirs told him he was very welcome, that the Sultan would receive him with a great deal of Pleasure, and that if he should have the good Fortune to restore the Princess to her former health, he might expect a considerable Reward from the Sultan, his Master's Liberality ; but, added he, stay a Moment, I will come to you again presently.

It had been a long Time, since any Physician had offered himself ; and the Sultan of *Caschmire*, with great Grief had begun to lose all Hopes of ever seeing the Princess of *Bengal* restor'd to her former Health, that he might marry her, as he so much wished to do ; therefore he the sooner ordered the Huissir, who brought him the News, to bring the Physician to him.

The Prince of *Persia* was presented to the Sultan of *Caschmire*, in the Habit and Disguise of a Physician, and the Sultan, without wasting Time in a long Discourse, after having told him the Princess of *Bengal* could not bear the

the Sight of a Physician without falling into the most violent Transports, which increased her Distemper, carried him into a Closet, from whence, through a Window, he might see her without being seen.

There Prince *Firouz Schah* saw his lovely Princess sat carelessly singing a Song with Tears in her Eyes, in which she deplored her unhappy Fate, which deprived her, as she thought for ever, of the Object she loved so tenderly.

The Prince was so sensibly affected at the melancholy Condition he found his dear Princess in, that he wanted no other Signs to comprehend, that her Distemper was feigned, and that it was for the Love of him, that she was under so grievous a Constraint. When he came out of the Closet, he told the Sultan, that he had discovered the Nature of the Princess's Distemper, and that she was not incurable; but added withal, that he must speak with her in private, and by himself, and notwithstanding her violent Fits, at the Sight of Physicians, he hoped she would hear and receive him favourably.

The Sultan ordered the Princess's Chamber Door to be open, and Prince *Firouz Schah* went in. As soon as the Princess saw him, for she took him, by his Habit to be a Physician, she rose up in a Rage, threatening him and giving him the most injurious Language; notwithstanding which, he made directly towards her, and when he was nigh enough for her to hear him, he said to her in a low Voice, and in a most respectful Manner, *Princess, I am not a Physician, but the Prince of Persia, who come to procure you your Liberty.*

The Princess, who presently knew the Sound of the Voice, and the upper Features of his Face, for all he had let his Beard grow so long; grew calm, at once, and a secret Joy and Pleasure were spread over her Face: Her Surprise was so agreeable, that it deprived her some time of the Use of her Speech, and gave Prince *Firouz Schah* Time to tell her, how great and irresistible his Despair was, when he saw the *Indian* carry her away, the Resolution he took afterwards, to leave every Thing to find her out, wherever she was, and never to return home till he had found her, and forced her out of the Hands of the perfidious Wretch; and by what good Fortune, at last, after long Fa-

signing Journeys, he had the Satisfaction to find her in the Palace of the Sultan of *Caschmire*. Afterwards he desired the Princess to inform him of all that had happened to her, from the Time she was taken away, till that happy Moment, telling her, that it was of the greatest Importance, that he might take the most proper Measures to deliver her from the Tyranny of the Sultan of *Caschmire*.

The Princess of *Bengal* told the Prince, how she was delivered from the *Indian's* Violence, by the Sultan of *Caschmire*, as he was returning home from hunting; how ill she was treated the next Day by the Declaration he had made of his Love, and his precipitate Design to marry her the next Day, without so much as ever asking her Consent; that this violent and tyrannical Conduct, put her into a Swoon; after which she thought she had no other Way, than that she had taken, to preserve herself for a Prince, to whom she had given her Heart and Faith; or die rather than marry the Sultan, whom she neither loved nor could ever love.

Then the Prince of *Persia* asked her, if she knew what was become of the Horse, after the *Indian's* Death? to which she answered, that she knew not what Orders the Sultan had given about him; but believed, after the Account she had given him of him, he would take Care of him.

As Prince *Firouz Schah* never doubted, but that the Sultan had the Horse, he communicated his Design to the Princess, of making use of him to carry them both back into *Persia*; and after they had consulted together on the Measures they were to take, and that nothing might prevent the Execution of them, they agreed, that the Princess should dress herself the next Day, and receive the Sultan civilly, when he brought him; but not to speak.

The Sultan of *Caschmire* was overjoyed, when the Prince of *Persia* gave him an Account, what Effect his first Visit had towards the Cure of the Princess of *Bengal*. And the next Day, when the Princess received him after such a Manner, as persuaded him her Cure was far advanced, he looked upon him as the greatest

Physician in the World, and exhorted her to follow his Directions, to complete what he had so well begun; and then retired.

The Prince of *Persia*, who attended the Sultan of *Caschmire* out of the Princess's Chamber, as he accompanied him, said to him with all imaginable Respect, Pray, Sir, if I may be so bold as to ask you this Question? How came the Princess of *Bengal* into the Dominions of *Caschmire*, thus alone, since her own Country lyes so far off? This he said, on purpose to introduce some Discourse about the enchanted Horse; and to know what was become of him.

The Sultan of *Caschmire*, who could not penetrate into what Motive the Prince of *Persia* had to ask that Question, made the Matter no Secret, but told him much the same Story as the Princess of *Bengal* had done, adding, that he had ordered the enchanted Horse to be kept safe in his Treasury, tho' he knew not the Use of him.

Sir, reply'd the pretended Physician, the Information, which your Majesty gives me affords me a Means of curing the Princess. As she was brought hither on an Horse, and that Horse was enchanted, she hath contracted something of the Incantment, which I am sure, I can remove. If your Majesty would be pleased to entertain your Court and People of your Capital with the most Surprizing Sight, that ever was seen; let the Horse be brought into the great Square before your Palace; and leave the rest to me: I promise to shew you, and that Assembly, in a few Moments Time, that the Princess of *Bengal* shall be as well as ever she was in her Life: But the better to effect what I propose, it would be proper that the Princess should be as magnificently dressed as possible, and adorned with the best Jewels your Majesty has: Which, and much more difficult Things, the Sultan would have undertaken, to have arrived at the Height of his Desires; as he expected to do soon.

The next Day the enchanted Horse was by his Order taken out of the Treasury, and placed early in the great Square, before the Palace, upon which, a Report was

spread through the Town, that there was something extraordinary to be seen, and Crowds of People of all Sorts flocked thither from all Parts, insomuch, that the Sultan's Guards were placed to prevent all Disorders, and to make Room enough round the Horse.

The Sultan of *Caschmire* surrounded with all his Nobles and Ministers of State, was placed on a Scaffold erected on purpose. The Princess of *Bengal* attended by a vast Number of Ladies, which the Sultan had assigned her, went directly up to the Horse, and the Women helped her to get upon his Back; when she was fixed in the Saddle and had the Bridle in her Hand, the pretended Physician placed a great many Vessels full of Fire, which he had ordered to be brought, round the Horse; and going round about him several Times, he cast a strong and grateful Perfume into those Pots; then casting down his Eyes and running, with his Hand on his Breast, three Times about the Horse, he made as if he pronounced some certain Words to himself. In the Mean Time the Pots sent forth a dark Cloud, of a pleasant Smell, and so surrounded the Princess, that neither she, nor the Horse, were to be discerned. At this Juncture the Prince jumped nimbly up behind her, and reaching his Hand to the Peg, turned it; and while the Horse mounted into the Air, he pronounced these Words, which the Sultan heard distinctly, *Sultan of Caschmire, when thou wouldst marry Princesses, who implore thy Protection, learn first to get their Consent.*

Thus the Prince of *Persia* recovered and delivered the Princess of *Bengal*, and carried her that same Day to the Capital of *Persia*, where he alighted in the midst of the Palace, before the King, his Father's Apartment, who deferred the Solemnization of the Marriage no longer, than just to have Time to make all the Preparations necessary to render the Ceremony Pompous and Magnificent.

After the Days appointed for the Rejoicings were over, the King of *Persia*'s first Care was, to name and appoint an Ambassador, to go to give the King of *Bengal* an Account of what was past, and to demand his

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Approbation and Ratification of the Alliance contracted by this Marriage ; which the King of *Bengal* took as an Honour, and granted with a great deal of Pleasure and Satisfaction.

The End of the Eleventh Volume.

